FBIS DAILY REPORT

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Vol III No 083

29 April 1982

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USSR'S ARBATOV ON PEACE MOVEMENT, ARMS ISSUES

PM281431 Helsinki HUFVUDSTADSBLADET in Swedish 26 Apr 82 p 5

[Finska Notisbyran interview with USSR Institute of the United States and Canada Director Georgiy Arbatov: "The Nordic Area Can Never Be Completely Nuclear-free"]

[Text] Stockholm -- "The Nordic area can never become a completely nuclear-free zone since the Soviet Union has strategic installations in the north." This was said by Georgiy Arbatov, the Soviet delegate on the so-called Palme commission for disarmament which was putting the finishing touches to its final report in Stockholm over the weekend. Arbatov is director of Moscow's Institute of the United States and Canada, a member of the CPSU Central Committee and considered by many to be President Leonid Brezhnev's closest foreign policy adviser.

Arbatov pointed out that the Arctic Ocean and the Baltic are also stretegically sensitive areas for the Soviet Union, which has its only ice-free exits through these waters. [sentence as published]

In an interview with Sweden's TIDNINGARNAS TELEBRAMBYRA Arbatov said that he nevertheless believes that it would be a good thing if negotiations for a nuclear free zone in the Nordic area were started. Such a zone would have a great political signifiance since it would be able to set off a chain reaction he said.

Arbatov did not deny that there were nuclear arms on board the Soviet submarine which ran aground in the Karlskrona Archipelago last fall. There are many ships carrying nuclear arms in all the world's oceans, he pointed out.

However, Arbatov firmly rejected U.S. claims that the Soviet Union has deployed SS-20 missiles since the U.S.-Soviet negotiations on European medium-range arms began in Geneva last fall.

The SS-20s have three nuclear warheads and are a replacement for the outdated SS-4 and SS-5 missiles, according to the Soviet Union.

Arbatov is a little doubtful about a peace march to Moscow like the one which went to Paris last summer. "Of course, it would be good for peace activists from East and West to exchange views," he said.

"But," he said worriedly, "from what I have heard of other peace marches in the West they are often supported by people who only want to surround themselves with publicity."

"Imagine the opposite situation, that is, Soviet peace activists" traveling to Washington and shouting anti-U.S. slogans which would hurt Americans' feelings. This would not promote efforts toward peace, which should be based on mutual respect.

"The same would be true if similar scenes were to take place in Moscow. Things do not have to be like this. But the idea of a peace march is new to us. I hope that it will not be long before it will be possible to realize such a march in a worthy way," he said.

Arbatov mentioned the crisis surrounding the Falkland Islands as an example of how war can suddenly erupt when least expected.

"The conflict surrounding the Falkland Islands shows that we live in a dangerous world. In 10 years' time it will be even more dangerous, for then many more countries will have nuclear arms at their disposal. That is why we must act quickly and create real guarantee that nuclear arms will never be used," he stressed.

[Question] Are there any technical possibilities of making sure that such guarantees will not just be paper guarantees?

[Answer] It is true that we are living in a world poisoned by distrust, and it is true that it is possible to conceal a few weapons, but it is impossible to keep large numbers of arms secret.

[Question] It is also claimed that the Soviet Union displays a distrust bordering on paranoia.

[Answer] I wonder how the Americans would act if instead of their secure border with Canada in the north they had a border like ours in the west with massive forces from NATO on the other side? No, we are not paranoid. But we are cautious, and with good reason.

[Question] The Soviet Union has long been claiming that there is military balance between the superpowers at present. Many U.S. politicians and experts have admitted this now and are calling for a freeze in nuclear arsenals. How does the Soviet Union react to this?

[Answer] Well, there is not much to react to. A few Americans admit that there is balance -- others do not. Unfortunately President Reagan is one of those who does not

PRAVDA REVIEWS DISARMAMENT COMMITTEE SESSION

PM281141 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Apr 28 p 5

[TASS report: "Another Session Over"]

[Text] Geneva, 22 Apr -- Another Disarmament Committee session has finished here. The final sitting summed up the results of the committee's work, particularly in the light of the preparations for the second UN General Assembly special session on disarmament, to be held this June.

Both during the final sitting and throughout the session the speeches of the overwhelming majority of delegates expressed serious concern at the present deterioration -- through the fault of the United States and NATO -- in the international situation, the dangerous new twist in the arms race and the increase in the threat of nuclear war. In this connection the new Soviet initiatives in the sphere of the limitation of medium-range nuclear weapons, which were put forward recently by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the Soviet Union's other peace-loving steps were greeted with great interest in Geneva's Palais des Nations, where the Disarmament Committee worked.

The committee's work showed that the majority of states are deeply interested in the speediest achievement of real results in the sphere of disarmament and in the strengthening of peace and security. Many participants in the session, the representatives of the socialist countries and also of nonaligned and neutral states -- criticized the U.S. course of fueling international tension and the U.S. decision on a fullscale production of neutron weapons and on starting a race in chemical weapons, and in particular binary weapons. The peoples of the whole world, Ethiopia's delegate, (Tadesse Terrefa), said, are against the quantative and qualitative buildup of armaments, condemn the doctrine of "limited" nuclear war and demand the prevention of nuclear catastrophe.

During the committee session the USSR and the other socialist community countries invariably adopted an active and constructive posture and submitted many specific proposals dictated by the desire to achieve positive results in various aspects of disarmament and the limitation of the arms race, USSR representative V.L. Israelyan noted in his speech.

The USSR's proposal on the need to prevent an arms race in space was a subject of discussion at the session. A proposal from the socialist countries for talks on limiting the nuclear arms race and in particular on banning neutron weapons was also examined. It was on the initiative of the socialist community countries that the committee decided to start specific talks on a complete and universal ban on nuclear weapons tests. As is well known, the USSR had always attached exceptional importance to an all-embracing ban on nuclear tests and only the stubborn U.S. opposition had prevented the committee from creating an appropriate working organ to hold talks.

Even though it agreed -- under pressure from the majority of delegations -- to the creation of such an organ, the American delegation did its utmost to narrow the organ's framework and powers.

At the final sitting GDR delegate (G. Kherder), Czechoslovak representative M. Vejvoda and a number of other speakers emphasized that the results of the committee's work could have been considerably greater were it not for the systematic obstruction from the United States and its closest NATO partners. The doctrines of "containment" [Serzhivaniye] and "deterrence," SRI Lanka's delegate (Dzheyakoddi) said, are preventing us from achieving success in the talks. What is needed is something else -- the political will to achieve the extremely important tasks that the world public is setting the committee.

IZVESTIYA VIEWS RESULTS OF DISARMAMENT SESSION

PM281327 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Apr 82 Morning Edition p 4

[Correspondent V. Kuznetsov dispatch from "World Today" news roundup: "The Results of the Spring Session"]

[Text] Geneva -- The rap of the chairman's hammer announced the close of the Disarmament Committee's spring session in the late evening of 21 April. This, the 173d plenary session had summed up the results of nearly 3 months of work.

The tasks before the session had been set out in a message from UN General Secretary J. Perez de Cuellar. The committee was to have prepared a number of important documents for the 2d UN General Assembly special session on disarmament due to be held in New York in June. They include draft comprehensive disarmament programmes and draft proposals concerning a nuclear weapons test ban and a ban on radiological weapons and on the production and stockpiling of all types of chemical weapons. Special reports have been prepared on all these questions by working groups of the session.

From the outset the NATO countries' delegations, headed by the United States, tried to channel the work of the session's working groups into a course of confrontation.

But the attempts to impose NATO's concepts on the session were rebuffed by the socialist neutral and developing states' delegations. Thus Inga Thorsson, Swedish delegation head, addressing the plenary session condemned the U.S. representatives' line which was effectively aimed at refusing to discuss the questions on the agenda. For his part, Nigerian delegate (J. Izhevere) stressed that the international public expects practical results from the committee in resolving the most vital present-day problems which is what the achievement of universal and total disarmament is.

The keenest interest was caused among the session's participants by the Soviet Union's new peace initiatives. The proposals of L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, open new prospects for averting nuclear holocaust and reducing the level of international tension, Mexican Ambassador Alfonso Garcia Robles stated in conversation with your correspondent.

The work of the current disarmament committee session has been influenced by the powerful antiwar movement launched in Europe and across the ocean. The session has received many addresses and appeals to prevent the deployment of new nuclear missiles on the European Continent and to prohibit the barbarous forms of weapons of mass destruction.

Summarizing the session's results, Soviet representative V. L. Israelyan noted the active and constructive stance of the socialist community countries which have submitted quite a few specific proposals. The Soviet Union, he said, firmly advocates the intensification of the work of all international forums which are discussing disarmament problems and the resumption of the recently interrupted talks particularly those on such questions as ending nuclear weapons production and banning the neutron weapon and other means of mass destruction.

The session showed that since the first UN General Assembly special disarmament session, the committee has become a representative forum which has discussed a whole series of practical questions for ending the arms race and strengthening peace and cooperation among the peoples.

HAIG'S SPEECH 'MASKS' FOREIGN POLICY LINE

LD281532 Moscow TASS in English 1504 GMT 28 Apr 82

["Concerning One 'Concept' of the U.S. Secretary of State" -- TASS headline; by TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov]

[Text] Moscow, 28 Apr, TASS -- Speaking on April 27 in Washington, the U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig said that the approach of the United States to the Soviet Union, which combines force and negotiations, offers the greatest hope for serious successes. And he added that the USA allegedly intended to continue to clarify whether or not the Soviet Union was displaying a readiness to hold talks aimed at achieving concrete results.

The fact that the present administration in Washington regards force as the chief instrument of its foreign policy is an open secret. This is eloquently attested to by the U.S. line to engage in an all-out effort to build up armaments so as to upset the rough parity of forces that has taken shape in Europe and the world, and to dictate its will to sovereign countries and peoples.

In advocating a further pursuit of this course and the need to be even more persistent in drawing the NATO countries into it, Mr. Haig did not divulge anything new, although he kept silent about at least two highly important aspects. Firstly, that Washington's and NATO's designs to obtain a military superiority over the USSR held out absolutely no promise of materialization and augured no "successes" for the United States. And secondly, he kept silent about the fact that in our nuclear age the arms race, while totally failing to contribute to resolving some of the long-overdue international problems, can only serve to exacerbate tensions and to bring nearer the danger of a nuclear catastrophe, a circumstance that is being realized with increasing clarity by both many prominent political figures inside the United States and millions of rank-and-file Americans. It is this that is being graphically confirmed by the anti-war movement unheard-of for its scale, that has swept the United States.

But the "formula" put forward by the U.S. Secretary of State consists, as one can see, of two components -- it also provides for negotiations. Well then, the Soviet Union has always held the principled position that in our age all the international problems, no matter how complex they may be, must not be decided in a nuclear duel, but rather at the negotiating table -- this line of constructive dialogue, not of confrontation, has once again been reaffirmed in Leonid Brezhnev's recent answer to a PRAVDA correspondent question. It is not, for instance, the fault of the Soviet Union that such a major treaty on curbing the arms race as the SALT-2 treaty has been frustrated. It is not the Soviet Union that is the guilty party in that so far there is still no treaty on a complete and universal ban on nuclear weapons -- it is the USA that is stubbornly evading the necessary negotiations. It is the USA, not the USSR, that has unilaterally refused to discuss questions of restricting military activity in the Indian Ocean, of limiting sales and shipments of conventional weapons. So who is it, one may ask, that the U.S. Secretary of State is appealing to while talking about the need for negotiations with the USSR?

It is known that even in those cases when such negotiations are in progress (be that on a multilateral or bilateral basis, or be that in Madrid, Geneva or Vienna), it is no other than the American side that is inventing pretexts upon pretexts so as to prevent any headway. One gets the impression that at times Washington enters into negotiations with the sole purpose of fostering illusions and, by blunting the vigilance of the public, going on with the arms race. These are the facts -- so, then, what is it, one may ask, that Mr Haig wants to go on clarifying? And in fact, it is difficult to get rid of the idea that the glib talk about the need "to clarify" the position of the USSR, which is absolutely clear, which goes hand in hand with all kinds of inventions about the Soviet Union, has been resorted to by the U.S. secretary of state with the sole purpose of trying to make yet another attempt to mask Washington's destructive foreign-policy line whose substance boils down to staking on force, and to nothing else.

President Ronald Reagan in his recent state of the union message said that the U.S. foreign policy must be based on realism rather than on naivete or self-delusion. But it so happens that the persistent attempts on the part of definite U.S. circles to use the nuclear big stick, pressure and blackmail in order to "undermine" and "roll back" socialism, and to divide the socialist states are as remote from a realistic approach as Washington from Moscow. As regards a dialogue and negotiations -- conducted not from "positions of strength but rather on the principles of equality and equal security of the parties, the Soviet Union stands for precisely such a dialogue, and it could only welcome if [as received] a similar position were adopted by the other side. If, it goes without saying, such a position actually exists, not just another attempt to hide the substance of Washington's aggressive policy behind a high fence or rhetoric about Washington's alleged peaceful intentions. [sentence as received]

FORMER U.S. LEADERS HIT 'RECKLESS' REAGAN LINE

PM281223 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 17, 23 Apr 82 p 14

[Ivan Vasilyev "Observer's View": "Yesterday's Men and Today's"]

[Text] It seems that the present American administration's easy life, when it was able to cope with timid opposition to its militarist course, is over. The reckless nuclear stratgy of the White House, the State Department and the Pentagon has brought the public to their feet. Fear has been inspired in them by officials; remarks about how there are things more important than peace, about the permissibility of nuclear war and about a first strike. The boomerang of fear is now coming home and scoring a palpable hit against those who threw it. The fear is turning into alarm and protests.

Yesterday's men, the venerable creators of foreign policy and military strategy, are joining in the debate on U.S. nuclear strategy. Whereas formerly their actions were single, ranging salvos, so to speak, now they have launched a massed offensive. As if they were in collusion, or someone had put them up to it.... Washington's foreign policy course has been condemned simultaneously by a former vice president, three former defense secretaries, two former directors of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, two former presidential national security advisers and a former CIA deputy director. And that is by no means a full list of the malcontents. The word of yesterday's men carries weight, and people heed it in an America which is concerned at the growth of the danger of war and longs to avert the slide toward castrophe. However much the administration may want to close the opposition's mouth, the country, in the assessment of the New York TIMES, "is on the threshold of the first major debate on nuclear policy in more than 10 years."

And it is highly significant that in this nationwide debate, which has even spread to Congress, the administration has found itself between the devil and the deep blue sea -- public dissatisfaction on the one hand and, on the other, criticism from that section of the ruling class which believes that the White House is by no means resorting to the best methods of ensuring security and U.S. interests. Former Defense Secretary R. McNamara has described this course as madness.

Of course, the complaints originating from establishment circles bear the imprint of the congressional elections to be held this fall and of internal party strife. Naturally, representatives of the Democratic Party would like to appear more reasonable in the public eye than their colleagues from the ruling Republican Party. But the main thing is still that Americans -- both those at the very bottom of the hierarchical ladder and those on the uppermost rungs -- are beginning, irrespective of their party affiliation, social position or religion, to become increasingly aware of the pernicious nature of the course into which America is being drawn by its present leaders.

For what, specifically, are yesterday's men criticizing today's?

First and foremost, for bellicosity and an excessively risky fondness for nuclear programs and doctrines, for exaggerated, unobjective assessments of the U.S.-USSR correlation of forces, for provoking the arms race and for the lack of genuine readiness to reach agreement with the Soviet Union on restraining and limiting it. In the opinion of former Defense Secretary H. Brown the administration has "foisted on the American people a course of building up arms on a far greater scale than they wanted."

"Ultimately the danger of nuclear war can be averted only through serious talks with the Soviet Union on reducing all types of nuclear weapons to zero." That opinion was put forward in the Washington POST by former Defense Secretary M. Laird. And here we find another motif which persists in the statements of yesterday's politicians: In the nuclear missile age it is necessary to be on good terms and find a common language with the other great power. M. Shulman, former special adviser to the U.S. secretary of state on Soviet affairs, is seriously concerned that the administration has still not determined how to build relations with the Soviet Union. He is against artifical "linkages" between disarmament talks and other problems such as, for instance, the situation in Poland or Afghanistan. He favors regular summit meetings between the two countries' leaders.

Of course, matters should not be presented uniformly and in simplified form, as though there were some kind of watershed between the policy of former administrations and that of the present administration. R. Reagan's administration inherited and is taking to extremes the most dangerous elements in its predecessors' policy while throwing overboard the constructive elements. Nor were those predecessors as far beyond reproach as they would now like to appear. But be that as it may, life does teach people, and it sometimes brings even the biggest diehards to their senses. Some of yesterday's men are beginning to see clearly. Will today's men see clearly and come to their senses? That is the question.

IZVESTIYA HITS U.S. STANCE ON NUCLEAR WAR

PM281435 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Apr 82 Morning Edition p 4

[Rejoinder: "On the Verge of Madness": from the "World Today" feature compiled by V. Pshenkin]

[Text] You are amazed when you familiarize yourself with the statements, "arguments" and simply fabrications to which the Washington administration has increasingly frequent recourse, going as far as overt juggling in its propaganda tightrope-walking.

How else can you assess U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger's statement at a recent press conference where he tried to prove that it is not the United States but "the Soviet Union (?!) that considers victory in a nuclear war possible"? That is really laying the blame at someone else's door! When asked where the facts are, he "evasively" declared that they exist but are too "delicate to be made public."

His colleague in the administration -- Secretary of State Haig -- proved more open. In a letter addressed to NATO Secretary General Luns, the Flemish weekly DE NIEUWE testifies, he speaks plainly of Washington's readiness to be the first to use nuclear weapons and to begin a "limited" nuclear war. In this same document the former NATO Supreme Commander in Chief, Europe, insists on the need, so to speak, for the propaganda presentation of that doctrine in order to "curb the trends of neutralism and pacifism which have appeared in Europe." It could not be put more clearly! And the essence of the matter is in no way changed by the fact that the letter was written back in June 1979. The doctrine expounded by Haig with cynical frankness is not simply alive but is being directly realized by Washington in practice. How else can one explain the increase in the U.S. military contingent in West Europe by 37,000 servicemen without the Congress' knowledge and the persistent twisting of allies' arms in the matter of deploying new American missiles in West Europe?

SOVIET PAPER ON 'GROSS FALSIFICATION' BY ROSTOW

LD290622 Moscow TASS in English 0540 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Text] Moscow, 29 Apr, TASS -- "The pronouncements of the U.S. administration on a possibility to be the first to deliver a nuclear strike...smell of blackmail," the newspaper PRAVDA writes today. The newspaper comments on the speech made by the Director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency Eugene Rostow at Yale University. As is noted by the newspaper, "Eugene Rostow protrayed for the audience an intimidating scenario in which the Soviet Union, resting upon its military 'superiority', allegedly might impose upon the United States political coercion based on the threat of use of nuclear weapons."

"Eugene Rostow cannot but know about the purely defensive character of the Soviet military doctrine which rules out preventive wars and the first strike concept," the newspaper continues. "Certainly, the high-placed Washington official knows full well that the Soviet Union never blackmailed anybody by a threat of using military force, and the more so nuclear weapons. Why did he need such a gross falsification. Obviously to divert the attention of the concerned public from the real danger coming from the banks of the Potomac."

USSR-U.S. CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION SESSION ENDS

LD261712 Moscow TASS in English 1613 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] Geneva, 26 Apr, TASS -- A session of the Soviet-American standing consultative commission has ended here today. The commission was set up to facilitate implementation of the objectives and provisions of the treaty on limiting the ABM systems, the provisional agreement on some measures in the field of limiting strategic offensive weapons, concluded between the USSR and the United States on May 26, 1972, as well as of the agreement on measures to reduce the danger of a nuclear war, concluded between the two countries on September 30, 1971.

DELEGATIONS TO LPRP CONGRESS VISIT MOSCOW

PM271525 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Apr 82 p 4

[TASS report: "To Fraternal Party's Congress"]

[Text] The following have passed through Moscow on their way to Vientiane to take part in the work of the Third Lao People's Revolutionary Party Congress: a BCP Central Committee Delegation headed by BCP Central Committee Secretary S. Mikhaylov; a Communist Party of Cuba delegation headed by L. Soto, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee Secretariat; an MPRP delegation headed by B. Altangeral, member of the MPRP Central Committee and first secretary of the Ulaanbaatar MPRP City Committee; a PZPR delegation headed by J. Labecki, member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo; and a CPCZ delegation headed by CPCZ Central Committee Secretary J. Polednik.

GDR LEADERS MEET WITH BLOC TRADE UNION CHIEFS

PM290825 Moscow TRUD in Russian 23 Apr 82 p 3

[TASS report under general heading "GDR Trade Unions Congress"]

[Text] Berlin, 22 Apr -- A meeting took place here today between E. Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, H. Tisch, chairman of the central board of the Free German Trade Union Federation, and leaders of delegations from the fraternal trade union organizations of socialist countries.

I. Zakaria, general secretary of the WFTU, was present at the meeting.

Taking part in the talks were S.A. Shalayev, chairman of the AUCCTU; S. Gaspar, general secretary of the Hungarian National Trade Union Council and chairman of the WFTU; P. Dyulgerov, chairman of the Bulgarian Central Council of Trade Unions; K. Hoffmann, chairman of the CSSR Central Council of Trade Unions; and E. Mielnicki, chairman of the All-Polish Commission for Cooperation among Sector Trade Unions.

In the course of the meeting, which passed in a cordial atmosphere, questions of cooperation between GDR trade unions and the trade unions of the fraternal countries in building socialism and communism were discussed.

NATO'S 'GEOSTRATEGIC' PLANNING EXAMINED

PM281207 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 18 Apr 82 p 5

[Ernst Genri article: "Defense or Attack? The Dangerous Plans of NATO's 'Geostrategists'"]

[Text] When U.S. and NATO politicians turn down Soviet proposals for curbing the arms race they usually publicly claim that they are guided by a desire to safeguard the West's "defense" and nothing else. They claim to have no thoughts whatever of aggression. The defense of Europe, they claim, is all they are thinking about.

Is this really the case?

The "Atlanticist" generals and dignitaries are currently rushing around like madmen. Never in NATO's history has the bloc's headquarters been in such a flap. Its envoys are dashing around West Europe, the Near East and Africa holding secret talks with the authorities there, offering deals and making high-sounding statements at press conferences. Meanwhile, in Washington the President is making speeches alarming world opinion.

There is no doubt that some sort of gambling game is being played behind the scenes. Something is cooking and it is not difficult to figure out what it is. The players' tracks are quite easy to follow.

Understandably, there has recently been a lot of talk about the unprecedented growth of U.S. arms. Both at home and at NATO bases in Europe an arsenal of "superweapons" sufficient to destroy the world several times over is being built up.

But this is only part of NATO's master plan: The outer part relates to the strategic positioning of the bloc's forces in their projected theater of operations. How do they plan to position them? From where do they plan to launch their main strikes against the socialist countries?

This is not a purely military but also a political question. We can speak of a NATO "geostrategy." The Atlanticist mini-Napoleons are now rushing around different countries and continents in order to spread the net of this strategy.

Particularly striking is the fact that NATO is trying to turn the Mediterranean into one of its aggressive forces' main bases.

The reasons for this are that the U.S. 6th Fleet is stationed there, just a few hundred kilometers from the USSR's southern shores (the area is patrolled by British, Italian and Turkish ships as well as U.S. ships), and that it is there, along the Mediterranean's shores, that the most rightwing military and political groupings in West Europe since the war are concentrated.

For example, for years many Italian generals and admirals have had the closest ties with the Naples headquarters of NATO's southern flank. The most reactionary of them, who were tutored by Mussolini's comrades-in-arms, are known to have made repeated attempts in the decades since the war to stage a coup and install an authoritarian anticommunist regime in the country.

These people make no secret of the fact that they link their destiny with the United States. Fearing the strength of the Italian workers movement and sensing their own weakness, they are staking all on NATO, and the Pentagon knows this.

But that is not all: the neofascist "Italian Social Movement" Party -- which is the only mass neofascist party in the world, with around 300,000 members, and whose influence is particularly great in the south of the country -- is making plans based on the same calculations. Washington has not forgotten it either. A number of retired Italian generals who have had a hand in plots to install a dictatorship have been and are members of this party.

In the seventies the post of party vice president was occupied by Admiral Birindelli, who before his retirement was commander of NATO naval forces in southern Europe.

NATO confederates also lead rightwing and neofascist parties in other Mediterranean countires. In Spain, which is expected to join NATO in the very near future, rightwing military circles also solidly support an alliance with the United States. The neo-Francoist generals who made a bid for power in Madrid in February 1981, plan to turn the Mediterrean's western shore into a U.S. bastion. This would at the same time be a body blow to the workers movement on the Iberian Peninsula.

The "black colonels" in Greece had the same plans for the eastern Mediterranean up to 1974. It was later established that these fascists were operating on the basis of detailed instructions drawn up by NATO's southern headquarters and the CIA, but they were unable to hold onto power since the people were against them. The heirs of the "black colonels" in Greece are now hiding underground but are still hatching new plots. Someone is spurring them on.

But the Pentagon regards Turkey, which is run by an authoritarian military regime, as its main stronghold in the eastern Mediterranean. The United States has 61 military bases there. Immediately adjacent to the Black Sea and the Balkans, Turkey is regarded in Washington as a particularly important foothold for launching a direct strike against the USSR. Turkey's border with the Soviet Union stretches for 500 km, and with Bulgaria, 200 km.

The United States is trying to fit countries like Egypt and Morocco on the Mediterranean's southern shores and Israel in the Near East into the same stretegic plan.

In other words, with the help of the local military and neo-fascists the NATOites are encircling southern Europe, including the territory to the southeast, with a kind of anti-socialist ring. NATO's Plan No 100-1, Operation Prometheus, Document 70/5 and other secret dispositions drawn up back in the fifties and sixties and later brought to light have also served the same purpose. Each of these documents envisaged a sudden lightening seizure of power by the generals, police and profascist gangs in the event of "crisis situations "in any West European country. It was understood that special U.S. detachments, which have since been given the name of the Rapid Deployment Force, would be rushed to their aid.

Disposition Prometheus contained detailed instructions for the local military on how to avoid missing the boat and seize the initiative from the left. Doubtless these instructions are now being refined and "improved" by NATO headquarters for every West European country.

All the signs are that Washington still has hopes of enticing even France, who withdrew from the NATO military organization back in 1966, into this net. Hopes are now being pinned on those circles in France, which after suffering defeat in the last presidential election, dream of the emergence of a "strongman", that is, an aspiring dictator, and could at any moment attempt to stage a coup.

The French "card" which for the time being it is keeping up the Pentagon's sleeve, is also an important part of its "geostrategy." Washington evidently believes that if France were once again to subordinate itself to the Atlantic bloc its chances of establishing control over the whole of the rest of West Europe would be doubled.

Rome -- Ankara -- Madrid -- Paris: These are the main links in the chain which NATO has been stretching round the shores of the Mediterranean in recent years. The Pentagon sees these links as a vital positional system [positsionnaya sistema] for aggression against the USSR in a third world war. Everything possible is being done to strengthen and expand it.

In February, 1980 West Germany's leading rightwing newspaper DIE WELT confirmed that "the functions of NATO's southeast flank are not to keep the door bolted but to act as a platform for an attack."

Precisely. "Navies," FRG Navy Commander Adm A. Baetge recently wrote, "can put pressure on any country bordering on an ocean.... In view of their ability to quickly concentrate on the salient of the main attack they are particularly suitable for use in managing crisis situations."

The architects of such plans regard the Mediterranean as virtually a NATO lake. It is for this reason that plots are constantly being hatched by rightwing forces in the surrounding countries.

NATO headquarters is, of course, not stopping at creating its "Mediterranean fortress." It also has plans for aggressive operations in central and northern Europe. The main objective is to deliver strikes against Moscow and other centers in the USSR. In this sector NATO's strategy largely coincides with that of the Hitlerites in the forties.

It is no mere coincidence that former officers in the Wehrmacht have for years played a leading role in NATO's leading organs in central and northern Europe under supreme U.S. control. Bundeswehr generals are almost invariably appointed chiefs of staff in these two zones. For a number of years former members of the Nazi General Staff Count A. Von Kielmansegg and J. Bennecke were in command there.

Needless to say, here too NATO politicians claim that they are thinking only of defense and nothing else. But what is the real situation?

Back in 1960, when the West was waging the "cold war," the Bundeswehr's semi-official publication WEHRKUNDE featured an article entitled "Military Leadership in the Atomic Age." It was written by T. Kruempelt, a former colonel in Hitler's General Staff. Pointing out that the old blitzkreig strategy needed revising, Kruempelt wrote: "In view of atomic weapons' great radius of action...it will scarcely be possible to undertake lightning campaigns in their previous form.... New forms must therefore be created for lightning operations."

What forms? The task, Colonel Kruempelt continued, will be to carry out an atomic attack against the enemy at the right moment. The attack must be targeted...at those points where the enemy's manpower and material resources are concentrated. If key targets in the enemy camp are hit he will then be deprived of an opportunity to retaliate at that stage of the battle with either atomic or conventional weapons."

Moscow, the USSR's oil-producing regions, oil-supply lines from the Near East, and the Urals were openly listed in the article as being among the targets. Moreover, it was stressed that the use of tactical and strategic weapons was not something to be feared, since "fear is a poor counsellor in time of war."

Now, of course, the Bundeswehr's semi-official publications do not write like this or talk this way aloud. But have the real views of the reactionary military beyond the Elbe really changed since then?

There is evidence that the NATOites are planning not just an attack on Moscow but a two-pronged attack on Leningrad, from the Baltic and the north.

There can be no doubt that the militarists in West Germany today realize the inevitable consequences of such a lunatic strategy for their own country. But this is scarcely likely to stop the most hotheaded among them. First, they are constantly being urged to pursue such a course by a U.S. leadership which cares little about the FRG's fate. Second, these same militarists are obeying the behests of their mentor, Hitler, who once said: "The sacrifice of the whole of Germany's youth is not too high a price to pay for achieving Germany's domination over Europe." In 1945 the fuehrer said: "If the war is to be lost, let the German people perish with it. There is no point thinking about the preservation of primitive foundations for the people's continued existence. We would do better to destroy all this ourselves."

insanity? Indeed. But this is exactly how the fate of West Germany is regarded at this time by the U.S. strategists in NATO headquarters and the Pentagon in planning to deploy Pershing II missiles in the FRG and other West European countries which they want targeted against Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev and Odessa. These missiles have a range of 1,800 km according to some sources and as much as 2,500 km according to others. Is this defense or attack?

Strikes are planned against the socialist countries from the south, the center and the north. The similarity with Hitler's strategy in the forties is striking. The main difference is that the "Atlanticists" have added nuclear missile weapons to their surprise attack plan. It is nevertheless clear that this strategy is also the brainchild of blind and arrogant people who do not understand the nature of our era. There is no real difference in this respect.

The socialist countries hate the idea of war. Year after year they have proposed that the arms race be halted and have pressed for its immediate limitation. The principle from which they proceed is that of equality of forces and equal security. This is a strategy for peace.

They will not, however, allow themselves to engage in self-deception or the imperialist bloc to achieve superiority under the spurious pretext of "defending" the West.

PRAVDA: SPAIN IN NATO OPPOSES HELSINKI FINAL ACT

PM281135 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Apr 82 p 4

[Ye. Rusakov article: "Washington's 'Spanish Game'"]

[Text] If you compare Washington's global policy to a session of simultaneous chess matches, the "board" on which U.S. strategists are playing the "Spanish game" is by no means the least in significance to them. Their aim is to use Spanish NATO membership to expand the network of U.S. military bases in that country in order to further build up the bloc's military potential.

The protocol on Spanish affiliation to the North Atlantic bloc was signed at a NATO council session in Brussels last December. This decision is now going through the system of inevitable formalities linked with its ratification in each NATO country. Washington is trying to hurry its partners along in order to more quickly make Spain the official 16th bloc member.

Where Spain's induction into NATO is concerned, both Washington and official Madrid, like the mayor (Golova) in Gogol's "May Night" (Mayskaya Noch), immediately turn a deaf ear and pretend that the CSCE Final Act does not relate to it. But does an attempt to upset the existing approximate balance of forces in Europe and secure NATO military superiority -- and that is why the United States is drawing Spain into the bloc -- really, not run counter to the sense and spirit of the document adopted in Helsinki?

As F. Gonzalez, secretary general of the Spanish Socialist Workers Party, has noted, the expansion of NATO by the addition of Spain could "upset the present balance" in Europe and create new grounds for intensifying pressure. The West German press has reported the fears of Social Democratic leader W. Brandt that Spain's entry into the North Atlantic bloc will change the "delicate balance of forces in Europe and will threaten East-West dialogue on disarmament questions."

But the supporters of Spain's induction into NATO have a different logic. For an explanation of the reasons for their diplomatic "deafness" I asked Javier Ruperez, a Spanish representative who had been addressing a press conference for participants in an international meeting, held in Spain, of (Skizh) Club journalists.

In his opinion, the military balance in Europe cannot be understood "in mechanical terms" and for this reason, apparently, Spain's "addition" to the NATO bloc changes nothing.

In fact military balance does not mean identity at all. One side has more of one thing, the other has more of something else.

But is it possible to pretend that increasing NATO's military potential by the addition of Spain's Armed Forces has no effect on the correlation of forces? After all, it is a question of armed forces numbering, according to Western press figures, over 340,000 men, about 1,000 tanks and hundreds of modern warplanes and warships.

When presenting the protocol on Spain's affiliation to the North Atlantic Treaty to the U.S. Senate for ratification at the end of January, the White House stated that the country's strategic position and resources would be an important contribution to NATO "security" (here read: aggressive policy — Ye.R. note). And an FRG Government memorandum presented to the Bundestag on this occasion says that Spain's entry into the bloc will establish a land link between Portugal and the remaining NATO members and increase the "security" of the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea lanes (here read: will expand the NATO members' military presence even more -- Ye.R. note) and will increase the North Atlantic bloc's potential in the nonnuclear arms sphere. In turn, Spanish Foreign Minister J. Perez Llorca has declared that the country's armed forces wish "to play an active role in defending" the West.

But it is not just a question of the extra military potential contributed to the bloc by Spain. NATO strategists are particularly attracted by the country's territory and possessions. As the U.S. INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE has written, "strategically, Spain dominates the Strait of Gibraltar and the southeast Atlantic. The Canary Islands, which belong to Spain, 'straddle' very important oil supply routes. This will certainly expand the NATO potential for planning the collective defense of this region supported by relatively modern Spanish arms and air forces and buttressed by Spanish bases." NATO's leaders are counting on using them to bring nearer the implementation of the long-harbored plans for expanding the bloc's sphere of operation beyond the North Atlantic. NATO strategists are fostering plans to use the Iberian Peninsula for the rapid transfer of reinforcements from across the ocean in an emergency. The Pentagon is also counting on using Spanish territory as a support point for the U.S. 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean and for the Atlantic fleet.

Under a bilateral treaty concluded with the Franco regime as far back as 1953, U.S. Armed Forces are entitled to use the air base at Torrejon de Ardox, near Madrid, and at Zaragoza, in the north of the country, as well as a naval abase at Rota on the Gulf of Cadiz in the south. But the Pentagon was expressly not allowed to expand at the bases. In 1976, Spain secured U.S. agreement to withdraw all nuclear warheads, mainly from the Rota submarine base. The talks on renewing the treaty were broken off last September because of disagreements, and the document itself was extended for 8 months: in other words, until Spain's entry into NATO. After this the Pentagon is expecting to be given carte blance to use the military bases on the Iberian Peninsula.

It is true Madrid has stated that "it remains Spain's sovereign right to decide precisely which weapons to have on its soil." But Washington thinks otherwise. E. Rostow, director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, has spoken quite bluntly of the need for all NATO countries to be ready for "the deployment within them of all types of arms necessary to the alliance, including nuclear arms."

Washington also needs the 16th NATO member to paper over the increasing splits in the bloc caused by impudent U.S. pressure on the allies. It is needed to compensate in some way for the complications which have emerged in connection with the trend toward the pursuit of an independent policy by some NATO members. It is needed to outflank the powerful antiwar and antimissile movement in Western Europe. As London's THE TIMES has written, Madrid's decision to align with NATO is "important at a time when a wave of neutralism and pacifism is rising."

NATO's entire history shows that Washington uses the bloc as a lever of political and economic pressure on the allies.

Right now the United States, on the pretext of the events in Poland, is twisting its "colleagues'" arms and putting a spoke in the wheel of the further development of their political and economic cooperation with the East.

By means of the NATO lever, Washington is counting on pressuring Spain's traditional relations with North African, Near East and Latin American countries and developing ties with socialist states. This threatens to restrict the potential for pursuing an independnet policy and jeopardizes Madrid's many successes in overcoming the diplomatic isolation of the Franco period. NATO's "new recruit" will have to pay -- and is already having to pay -- by compromising its own foreign policy position.

The Near East "gambit" in Washington's "Spanish game" is typical. The United States views the Iberian Peninsula as a very important transshipment point for the Rapid Deployment Forces. In 1967, Spain refused to be a stopover base for shipping U.S. military equipment to the Israeli aggressor and again in 1979 for F-15 aircraft for "intimidating" Iran. Henceforth, in an emergency the Pentagon intends to take advantage of "Atlantic solidarity."

Washington's far-reaching schemes connected with Spain's membership in NATO have caused wide spread protest in the country. It was no coincidence that the government was afraid to put the question of joining the bloc to a referendum: According to public opinion polls, most Spaniards would have voted against it. Socialist leaders have stated that in the event their party comes to power, they will withdraw the country from the North Atlantic bloc.

...In the textbooks on chess theory, the Spanish game is defined as one of white's strongest openings. The player who chooses it does not hide the fact that he is trying to upset the balance and gain positional advantage on the board. Washington's "grand masters" are striving for the same thing, kicking up a fuss about the "Soviet military threat" and the USSR's "interference" in Poland and so forth while pretending to play an innocent defensive gambit.

Washington's "Spanish game" -- drawing the country into NATO combined with loud obstructionist moves at the Madrid meeting -- is an unwanted example of a double game designed to achieve military superiority and East-West confrontation.

WEEKLY PAPER PRAISES WESTERN PEACE MOVEMENT

PM281555 Moscow ZA RUBEZHOM in Russian No 17, 23-29 Apr 82 p 1

[Editorial: "With Lenin"]

[Text] The situation taking shape in the international arena is complex and tense. U.S. imperialist circles are waging a frontal offensive against detente. In Europe, in Asia, in Africa and in Latin America they are trying to crush the people's desire for peace, independence and cooperation. The provocative campaign against the socialist countries, primarily the Soviet Union, are unending.

An Immutable Course

However, even in this charged atmosphere the Soviet land's Leninist foreign policy course remains immutable. The Soviet Union is continuing its hard and persistent work to implement the peace program for the eighties formulated and approved by our party's 26th congress. Addressing the 17th Congress of Soviet Trade Unions, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, announced the USSR's decision to unilaterally stop deploying medium-range missiles in the European part of the country and even to effect a certain reduction of existing missiles of that class. Again and again the Soviet Union stresses its readiness for dialogue with the United States and for talks to solve the most urgent questions relating to disarmament and removal of the threat of nuclear war. In the struggle for peace the Soviet Union remains true to the behests of the great Lenin.

This readiness was reaffirmed in L.I. Brezhnev's reply to the PRAVDA correspondent's question. Comrade L.I. Brezhnev pointed out that in his report at the 26th Congress he had already talked about the benefits of active dialogue with the United States at all levels. He noted that the summit meeting is a decisive component in that dialogue. At the same time, he expressed the belief that such a meeting should be well prepared and carried out on a solid basis and should not be incidental to some forum or other.

"To be more specific," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev pointed out, "we want the kind of Soviet-American summit meeting that would accord with our states' lofty responsibility for the state of world affairs and would justify the hopes pinned on it."

The Soviet Union's new proposal made a considerable international impact. It was seen by the world public as even more evidence of the Soviet leadership's determination to not miss any chance of saving mankind from the threat of nuclear war. It gives confidence to millions of people all over the world who are opposing the U.S. administration's militarist course -- confidence that the Soviet Union's support for the cause of peace remains unshakable.

In this situation the U.S. propaganda machine has embarked on a number of maneuvers to disorient the forces supporting peace. Whereas only recently Washington did not even try to disguise its militarist course, now efforts are being made to portray cruise missiles and Pershings as something approaching a "shield of peace." The talk about the neutron bomb, which caused such violent anger has been stepped up in connection with Reagan's notorious "zero option" whereby the White House is trying to secure one-sided military advantages.

Clearly on U.S. orders, a group of extreme rightwingers set up an "institute" in Brussels to combat the growing peace movement in Europe. NATO Secretary General J. Luns attended its first session.

But none of these steps has in any way dampened the ardor of antiwar actions in Western Europe, in the United States itself and in Japan. On the contrary, in recent weeks the peace movement has experienced a new upsurge.

What are the movement's characteristic traits? Above all its mass nature.

Hundreds of thousands of people have participated in demonstrations in the FRG, Britain, the Netherlands, Italy and other West European countries. The West European public is more acutely aware than ever before that the very future of the Continent depends on its commitment to upholding the cause of peace and averting a nuclear holocaust.

Another feature of the movement is that not only do its ranks contain representatives of all strata and classes of West European society -- workers, peasants and members of the intelligentsia -- but it is also supported by the most diverse political forces, church people and trade union and youth organization activists. Today people of the most diverse views and cultural traditions are united by one common aim -- the struggle against the danger of nuclear war.

The peace supporters use exeeedingly varied methods. In some countries, Britain, for example, they are trying to get entire cities to declare themselves "nuclear-free zones." Protest demonstrations are held at U.S. military bases in the FRG. There is a growing movement in Italy against the deployment of U.S. cruise missiles in Sardinia [as published; presumably means Sicily]. Lenin's ideas of peace and peaceful coexistence are conquering the masses in the West European countries.

The Struggle Against the Nuclear Danger

It is significant that the struggle against the nuclear danger has spread to the United States. A week of struggle against the threat of nuclear war is currently being held in the country. Hundreds of thousands of people are participating in it. Many commentators note that the example of the West European peace supporters was what sparked off the U.S. peace movement. But actual U.S. factors were undoubtedly of decisive significance.

Wider and wider strata of the U.S. public are beginning to realize that the U.S. administration bears the chief responsibility for the increase in international tension. People are gradually becoming aware of the danger to the United States itself caused by the administration's policy of whipping up the arms race and its policy of confrontation with the Soviet Union. Moreover, the arguments Washington officials use in an attempt to defend their militarist policy are thoroughly false. The U.S. administration's "arguments" that it is ready for disarmament but must first upgrade its arms in order to achieve parity with the Soviet Union are being totally refuted in the press and in speeches by eminent military specialists.

Frightened by the scale of the antiwar movement, the U.S. ruling circles started saying that is was inspried by "Moscow's agents." This crude lie only increased the indignation in the country at the administration's political course. Indeed, the movement for freezing nuclear arms is supported by prominent politicians, influential church circles and many mass organizations.

Then Reagan himself joined in the propaganda attempts to disorient and undermine the movement against the threat of nuclear war. He made a new appeal to the country.

Spiced with peacemaking phraseology, the appeal is a striking example of political hypocrisy. While assuring Americans of his desire for peace, the President said not a word about changing his foreign policy course which is jeopardizing peace. On the contrary, he reiterated the allegations about an alleged lack of equality between the USSR and the United States. And he had to do that in order to protect the policy of an unbridled arms race and his efforts to achieve U.S. miliary superiority over the Soviet Union.

The President's attempt to stem the tide of antimilitarist actions in the United States and Western Europe was in vain. The movement for peace and against the threat of nuclear war is becoming an increasingly significant and weighty factor in the normalization of the international situation.

The very strength of the actions for peace in Western Europe, the United States and other countries is a manifestation of the response evoked by the Soviet Union's warning about the seriousness of the military danger posed by the U.S. imperialist circles, and they are a striking expression of the support which millions of people all over the world are giving to the USSR's Leninist foreign policy course.

SOVIET PEACE POLICY BEGAN AT 1922 GENOA MEETING

PM261343 Moscow PRAVDA in Russians 10 Apr 82 p 4

[N. Prozhogin article: "Living History: On the 60th Anniversary of the Genoa Conference"]

[Text] On the facade of Genoa's ancient San Giorgio Palace it is still possible to make out the following half-effaced inscription, eaten away by sea salt: "In the year 1260 Guglielmo Boccanegro, being captain of this city, ordered me to be built...." Over the centuries the San Giorgio Palace has witnessed many events. Inscriptions on its walls attest that Marco Polo, Christopher Columbus and other famous discoverers of new lands visited it.

It can be said that the West discovered a new world for itself in the San Giorgio Palace -- The world created by the October Revolution in Russia. Several years ago another memorial plate was erected on the facade of this palace. The inscription cut into it recalls that an international conference, which went down in history under the name of the Genoa Conference, was held here from 10 April through 19 May 1922. Russia is named among the 34 countries which participated in it. Incidentally, this plate replaced an earlier one smashed during World War II -- which is also a noteworthy fact in itself.

The RSFSR participated in the Genoa Conference. The USSR was created a few months later, at the end of the same year of 1922. The voice of what was then still a quite young state, the first socialist state in history, was heard in the grand hall of the San Giorgio Palace.

The Genoa Conference was convened to formulate measures to restore the economic ties disrupted by the 1914-1918 world war, to settle financial questions and to resolve the political problems facing Europe. It was the first major international conference in which Soviet Russsia participated -- which in itself bespoke the end of the economic and political blockade in which, despite the patent failure of the military intervention, the imperialist powers were trying to keep it.

It was also virtual recognition of the fact that without Russia, Soviet Russia by this time, it is impossible to resolve Europe's important economic and political problems.

Of course, the captains of the capitalist world at that time had done their calculations. They believed that, by using the difficulties of the young Soviet state, they would be able to impose their terms on it. But such illusions, however, were fated to be shattered very quickly. Acting on the basis of directives drawn up by V.I. Lenin, People's Commissar for Foreign Affairs G.V. Chicherin declared in plain terms: "Keeping to the viewpoint of the principles of communism, the Russian delegation recognizes that in the present historical epoch, which makes possible the parallel existence of the old and the new, emergent social system, economic cooperation among states representing these two systems of ownership is imperative for general economic rehabilitation.

The words about two "systems of ownership," as most clear and intelligible words characterizing the very essence of the difference between socialism and capitalism, belonged to Lenin. "...I suggest you speak of 'systems of ownership,' and not simply of political and economic systems," he instructed the Soviet delegation at the Genoa Conference. In Genoa the basic principles of Lenin's theory of peaceful coexistence began to be used in practice.

In full accordance with these principles and to give peaceful coexistence a firm basis, the Soviet delegation, acting on the basis of Lenin's instructions, advanced the issue of interdependence between the successful development of trade and economic ties and the solution of the disarmament problem. "The Russian delegation," Chicherin declared in his speech at the conference's very first plenary session, "intends... to propose a general reduction in arms and to support all proposals aimed at easing the burden of militarism on condition that the armies of all states be reduced and the rules of war supplemented by a total ban on its most barbarous forms... in particular, the use of means of destruction directed against the peaceful population."

In addition to formulating questions connected with relations between the socialist country and the capitalist countries and defining means to ensure peace and security by way of disarmament, Soviet diplomacy also proposed in Genoa a specific form of realizing Lenin's ideas: convening a world congress. According to Chicherin's proposals, which Lenin called outstanding, it was a question of involving the peoples of all countries and continents in participating in resolving very important international questions. Here special emphasis was placed on their full equality and on recognition of the right of all of them to be in control of their own destiny. As for the land of the soviets, its delegation declared that "we are prepared to participate in common work in the interests of both Russia and all Europe and in the interests of tens of millions of people... and to support all attempts which may be aimed only at the palliative improvement of the world economy and the elimination of the threat of new wars."

In Genoa the imperialist powers, which still reckoned that they would carry out Europe's postwar rehabilitation at the expense of the vanquished countries and Soviet Russia, in fact rejected the Soviet program for businesslike, mutually advantageous cooperation.

In exactly the same way they wrecked the discussion of the problem of general disarmament and the question of convening a world congress. As a result of the stand taken by them, the Genoa Conference did not adopt effective decisions. However, the Genoa Conference itself and the Soviet delegation's speech there not only left a deep mark on diplomatic history but also had far-reaching consequences for the development of international relations.

Even before the conference opened Lenin said that "it would be absurd and ridiculous" to vouch for its success, but also "with a most sober and cautious assessment of the opportunities which Genoa now offers...it would be no exaggeration to say that...we will achieve our aim." In this case he had in mind the prospects of organizing international trade and economic ties. "...The interests of all capitalist powers demand the development, regularization and expansion of trade with Russia," Lenin pointed out. The course of the conference confirmed Lenin's analysis of the international situation. In the capitalist world even then a struggle was already being waged between two trends in the approach to the world of socialism. Whereas one of these trends was aimed at creating a united front against the Soviet country, the other was aimed at establishing businesslike, mutually advantageous relations with it -- which found its clearest expression in the Soviet-German treaty concluded on 16 April 1922 in the small town of Rapallo, near Genoa.

In entering into negotiations with Germany's representatives our delegation at the Genoa Conference was proceeding from Lenin's directive to do everything possible to split the united anti-Soviet front and to breach it. That task was successfully fulfilled. The Rapallo Treaty provided for the mutual annulment of all claims, the restoration of diplomatic relations and economic rapprochement -- which was of great importance to both countries. Lenin pointed out at the time: "Real equality of rights between the two systems of ownership...is provided only in the Rapallo Treaty."

This was the beginning. The conclusion of the Rapallo Treaty helped to frustrate the designs of those imperialist circles which were nurturing plans to subordinate Soviet Russia to their economic and political interests. The RSFSR was emerging from its state of isolation and asserting its position of equal rights with Western powers. Already in the same year of 1922 the Soviet Government concluded a number of economic agreements with capitalist countries. These were followed by the establishment of diplomatic -- that is, official - political relations.

There is no need to say in detail how present-day Europe, and the whole world too, differ from what they were like 60 years ago, at the time of the Genoa Conference. At that time the young Soviet country, devastated by the imperialist and civil wars and by foreign intervention, stood alone against the front of imperialist powers, which were seeking to bring it to its knees and, if successful, to stifle it. The USSR has now turned into a mighty state. New socialist countries have come into being in the world.

The fraternal community of socialist countries is the chief bulwark of peace. At the same time new independent states have been born in the place of the collapsed colonial system of imperialism. The communist and workers movement in the capitalist countries has grown sharply and strengthened.

The cardinal historic changes in the world have been promoted to a considerable extent by the implementation of the Leninist principles of Soviet foreign policy, which have been steadily and consistently embodied and further developed in the activity of the Communist Party and the Soviet state. It is sufficient to mention the peace program adopted by the 24th CPSU Congress and supplemented by the 25th congress. The same principles in conformity with the present international situation were embodied in the peace program for the eighties elaborated by the 26th party congress.

The struggle to introduce Leninist principles into the practice of international relations was never easy. It took the very principle of peaceful coexistence long years to receive international recognition.

The UN Charter is based on it, and it was made the basis of the CSCE Final Act and many other international treaties and agreements. It also took a considerable time for international legal recognition of the equal rights of the two "systems of ownership" to be really acknowledged by all leading capitalist states as the only possible basis of international cooperation.

The proposal for general disarmament advanced by the Soviet delegation in Genoa and the idea of the interdependence between successful trade and economic ties between the two different social systems and the solution of the disarmament problem retain their significance in full. Of course, it is no coincidence that it was precisely in the period of the relaxation of international tension which characterized the seventies that success was achieved both in the sphere of economic cooperation and on the path of limiting and ending the arms race. And is there not a similarity between the Soviet proposal at the Genoa Conference to convene a world congress and the new proposal advanced and actively upheld by the USSR and the other socialist countries to convene a world disarmament conference?

The significance of the Genoa Conference -- a significance which has not lost its topicality even today -- lies in the fact that, following the decree on peace, the Genoa Conference -- a broad international meeting -- was a kind of starting point, a reference point for the Soviet state's initiatives aimed at strengthening peace and security and at equitable and mutually advantageous cooperation among states. Moreover, under the present conditions of the exacerbation of international tension brought about by the policy of the U.S. ruling circles and some of their allies, the ideas formulated by V.I. Lenin and advanced in Genoa remain in the world's guiding star.

True to Lenin's behests, the CPSU and the Soviet state are waging a resolute struggle to curb the arms race, to remove the threat of thermonuclear war and for peaceful cooperation. "We cannot relax this struggle for a single day," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said, "and we will wage it until the danger has been put aside and lasting peace has been ensured."

BRITISH BLOCKADE PLANS FOR 30 APR REPORTED

LD281226 Moscow TASS in English 1222 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] London, 28 Apr, TASS -- Britain has decided to establish a complete air and naval blockage of the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands. This was announced today by the British Defence Ministry. The blockage is to become effective from 11 hours Greenwich time, on Friday, April 30.

BRITAIN PLANS TO USE VULCAN BOMBERS IN DISPUTE

LD290626 Moscow TASS in English 0549 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Text] Washington, 29 Apr, TASS -- Britain is planning to use the strategic Vulcan bombers capable of carrying nuclear weapons against targets in Argentina's territory in the eventuality of a further aggravation of the conflict over the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands, the Council on Hemispheric Affairs quoted well informed British sources close to the military command in London as saying.

Vulcan bombers may have already flown to the U.S. Air Force base on Ascension Island, which belongs to Britain.

As the aircraft have a limited range of flight, Britain is planning to send refuelling aircraft to Ascension Island.

MOSCOW CITES REPORTS ON BRITISH ATTACK PLANS

LD281252 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 28 Apr 82

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Petr Fedorov and Aleksey Sokolov]

[Text] UPI reports that Argentina has rejected Washington's latest proposal for a settlement of the Falklands/Malvinas crisis. No details are given of the contents of this proposal; however, a statement by the Argentine news agency calls it unacceptable, since it makes no mention of Argentina's sovereignty over the Falkland/Malvinas Islands, and this, as is known, is the basic condition of Buenos Aires for a peaceful settlement of the dispute.

A report from London says that a spokesman for the British Government refuses to comment on the new Washington proposal at this stage. At the same time, according to AP, Costa Mendez, the Argentine foreign minister, declared that within the next 24-48 hours, Britain intends to attack the archipelago. Mendez was speaking at a consultative meeting of the foreign ministers of the member-countries of the Organization of American States being held in Washington. Under the pressure of rapidly developing events, UPI reports, the meeting produced a draft eight-point resolution calling, in particular, for the British government to immediately cease all hostile actions against Argentina.

According to AFP, British warships have already arrived in the region of the archipelago and could begin a bombardment of the islands at any time. The agency reports that Britain could begin landings on the islands tonight. The commander of the British armada has reported to the British Government his readiness to make a strike at the islands. REUTER quotes the words of the commander of the British naval squadron, Rear Admiral Woodward: I have no doubts about an attack on the Falklands being a success. According to him, the landing on the island of South Georgia was just a preliminary to the big match. Let us leave it to the Rear Admiral's conscience whether it is right to compare war with sport. It should be noted, however, that this gentleman kept quiet about the fact that the forces taking part in this preliminary were by no means equal. There is a clear advantage on the side of the British.

In any case, it is early to speak of the complete success of the British on South Georgia island. According to a government spokesman in Buenos Aires, about 100 Argentine marines are continuing to fire on the British, preventing them from building an airstrip on the island. REUTER, reporting from London, states that the British Ministry of Defense has decided to send a further 1,800 marines and paratroops to the crisis zone. There are now 5,500 troops on board the squadron's ships.

The Thatcher Cabinet's adventurist course was strongly criticized in a debate in Parliament yesterday by Michael Foot, the leader of the Labor Party. He declared that the threat of military escalation was impermissible at a time when not all possibilities for a peaceful settlement of the conflict had been explored -- particularly, the UN mechanism had not been put into operation. If the Conservative Cabinet refuses to take measures to solve the dispute by peaceful means, declared Michael Foot, it is the Tories who will be responsible for the deaths of our sailors and soldiers. The leader of the Liberal Party, David Steel, also declared that he would not permit the members of his party to support any military operations until the Cabinet holds consultations with members of the opposition parties.

OAS 'REAFFIRMS' ARGENTINE SOVEREIGNTY OF ISLANDS

LD281450 Moscow TASS in English 1437 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Washington, 28 Apr, TASS -- The consultative meeting of foreign ministers of countries members of the Organization of American States has adopted a resolution today reaffirming Argentina's sovereignty over the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands. The resolution also calls on Britain and Argentina to conclude "an immediate cease-fire" in their conflict over the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands. The United States, which has put in a lot of efforts to frustrate the resolution, has abstained during the voting on the resolution.

EVANS, NOVAK SEEN OBSCURING U.S. FALKLANDS ROLE

PM281149 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 23 Apr 82 p 3

[A. Mozgovoy 'Rejoinder': "Those 'Perfidious' Russians..."]

[Text] Washington POST observer Robert Novak was once called a "purveyor of fascist trash." The journalist was not at all perturbed by this uncomplimentary title. Together with his partner Rowland Evans he continues to regale the readers with sensational fables.

The main fare which this duo regularly splash in the Washington POST is the "Soviet threat." They see the "hand of Moscow" everywhere: in the U.S. capital itself and in the realms of space. They have now uncovered it in the South Atlantic or, more precisely, in the Falkland Islands region. "If the Haig mediation collapses and military operations begin," write Novak and Evans on the conflict between London and Buenos Aires, "the USSR will be able to secure a bridgehead in Argentina -- its first in South America." What kind of bridgehead is this? A Soviet submarine base, it turns out.

Some figures in the U.S. administration and in the British Foreign Office have entered into speculation together with Novak and Evans. Nicholas Henderson, London's ambassador to the United States, is being particularly zealous. Without batting an eye he has stated that the Soviet Union, it is alleged, "will insist on being granted military bases in the Falkland Islands if Argentina wins the conflict with Britain."

But even Pentagon staffers conceded the total lack of evidence of USSR participation in the Falklands crisis. Our country advocates resolving disputes by peaceful means -- at the negotiating table. Talk of "Russian bases" is pernicious gibberish. Meanwhile, it is well known that the United States is giving all kinds of assistance to London's military plans. This has been confirmed by the U.S. Defense Department. The Americans have provided Britain with satellite facilities for communications with the squadron bound for the South Atlantic. British aircraft, ready at all times to start out for Argentine shores, are refueling at the U.S. air base on Ascension Island. Voices are being heard increasingly loudly in the United States demanding that "obstinate" Buenos Aires be punished. Thus the WALL STREET JOURNAL is calling for a U.S. Navy carrier-borne shock division to be sent to assist the British fleet.

Novak, Evans and company were just what was needed to cover up Washington's participation in London's punitive expedition against Argentina. But here is the problem: All of their allegations are built on sand and are collapsing like a house of cards.

BUSH'S TOUR TO 'INTIMIDATE' ASEAN COUNTRIES

LD281838 Moscow TASS in English 1818 GMT 28 Apr 82

["High Sounding Words and Unsavory Aims" -- TASS headline; by TASS news analyst Vasiliy Kharkov]

[Text] Moscow, 28 Apr, TASS -- To hear U.S. Vice President George Bush talk the United States regards the problems of South East Asia through the prism of the interest of ASEAN countries. Literally such a statement was made by George Bush on Tuesday in Singapore, the third lap of the present tour of a number of countries of Asia and Oceania by Washington's high-placed representative. As implausible is another assertion of the U.S. vice president that the United States, allegedly, has no wish to dominate the region, but merely wants to be a good and true friend and reliable ally. Reality, however, contrasts sharply to these high sounding words. Washington's real approach to ASEAN countries is based not on the principles of respect for their national interests, but on the striving to subjugate them to the United States military and political aims.

As is known, some 30 per cent of the export of ASEAN countries is to the United States. Raw materials make up the bulk of this export. In the recent years, the United States has been importing from ASEAN countries on an average almost 75 per cent of the United States entire imports of tin. To maintain such prices of this important strategic raw material as are of advantage for the United States, Washington dumps on the international market consignments of tin from its own reserve from time to time, thus undermining the economy of ASEAN countries.

Though the volume of the U.S. exports to ASEAN countries is less than that of Japan it is growing constantly. The growth rate in 1980-1981 was about 30 per cent. As a result, the growing imbalance in trade with the United States is a heavy burden on ASEAN countries. The United States aggregate capital investments, mainly private investments, to a number of ASEAN countries surpass even those of Japan. In the Philippines, for instance, the dividends of U.S. investors are over 25 per cent a year.

As to the U.S. "military presence" in the region, Washington set itself the aim of widening its strategic positions in South East Asia and seeks to bury the very idea of turning it into a zone of peace and stability. For this purpose Washington seeks to encourage military preparations in ASEAN countries. A broad program of the U.S. military aid to states of the region is a tool of this policy. Until now Washington has been paying "special attention" to Thailand and the Philippines. Now the Reagan administration pays such attention also to other countries. Washington has the same hackneyed pretext for militarization of ASEAN countries as for other districts. It is the invented "Soviet-Vietnamese threat". In Singapore, too, the U.S. vice-president was trying to intimidate with this threat those with whom he had conversations.

The aim of these unsavoury deliberations is quite obvious, to oppose ASEAN countries to their neighbours, countries of Indo-China, to impose confrontation on them. This smacks of old colonialist methods of setting some peoples against others. This is what in the language of representatives of the Washington administration means to be a "good and true friend" of peoples of South East Asia.

U.S. 'AIR ESPIONAGE' TOOL OF U.S. 'MILITARISTS'

LD290644 Moscow TASS in English 0631 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Text] Moscow, 29 Apr, TASS -- Air espionage has been and remains one of the major means used by American militarists to further their military-political course, writes the newspaper KRASNAYA ZVEZDA. The Pentagon and U.S. intelligence services, the newspaper stresses, do not conceal that the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community are the main targets of air espionage.

"American military strategists believe that air intelligence tasks can be fulfilled with the help of high-altitude, long-range planes fitted out with relevant electronic equipment and aerocameras."

Reconnaissance versions of practically all tactical fighter planes were developed in the United States and other main NATO countries, according to the foreign press, the article stresses. They are fitted out with various infrared and electronic reconnaissance equipment, and also cameras, placed inside planes and in suspended containers.

Carrying out the unrestrained arms race policy, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA stresses, the ring leaders of the U.S. military industrial complex, which is particularly characteristic of the present-day American administration, are building up efforts to develop new air espionage means that enable to "look into" the territory of countries of the socialist community. "The Pentagon strategists seek to place air spies as near as possible to frontiers of those countries, by using their bases in Europe, Japan, in the Middle and Near East."

The efforts, being undertaken by imperialist circles of NATO and, above all, of the United States, the newspaper stresses, to build up the arsenal of air espionage means with the use of the latest accomplishments of science and technology show that contrary to the demands of the peaceloving forces of the world and protests of the public in the NATO countries themselves, these circles are seeking to further aggravate the international situation. "The Pentagon's espionage sallies show once again that American imperialists, pursuing their aggressive aims, grossly flout the sovereignty and national interests of other states."

'PEACE CORPS' TO BE MADE 'MORE EFFICIENT'

LD281228 Moscow TASS in English 1105 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Ronald Reagan's administration is trying to step up the subversive activity of the Peace Corps which has discredited itself by secret ties with the Central Intelligence Agency and other American special services. L. Ruppe, Peace Corps director, announced during hearings at the House Foreign Affairs Committee that the administration intends to allocate the organisation 97.5 million dollars in the 1983 fiscal year. A extensive programme of "reorganising" the corps is envisaged to make it more efficient". L. Ruppe vividly described the "disinterested" activity of the American "missionaries". She claimed that they selflessly work to "promote" the development of the economy, culture and national awareness of the peoples in developing countries.

Why then do more and more nations drive the corps volunteers away? 29 countries already gave up its services in 20 years of the Corps' existence. The U.S. ruling circles have long since made the Peace Corps a tool of gross interference in the affairs of developing countries, their economic and political enslavement. Agents of the CIA, military intelligence and other secret services of the United States carry out their dirty operations under the cover of the organisation which now has about 5,000 members.

It is not accidental that the Peace Corps, as L. Ruppe declared, laid special emphasis at present on the activity in the Caribbean and Central America by concentrating there more than 860 of its workers. As is known, in line with the notorious Caribbean doctrine, drawn up by the Reagan administration, the United States is carrying out an extensive campaign of armed, economic and political subversion against the unfolding national liberation movement in the region. One of the leading tools in that unsavoury activity is the Peace Corps with its so-called charitable work.

PRESS REPORTS ON USSR-JAPAN ROUNDTABLE CONFERENCE

Opening Speeches

PM261317 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Apr 82 p 5

[Special correspondents Yu. Vdovin, N. Prozhogin report: "For Deepening Mutual Understanding"]

[Text] Tokyo, 20 Apr -- Opportunities and means of deepening mutual understanding and developing and strengthening goodneighborly relations between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Japan will be discussed at a "roundtable" conference of the public from the two countries which opened in Tokyo today. It is organized by a committee including five Japanese organizations which advocate developing political, trade, economic, cultural and other ties with the USSR, and also by the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and the "USSR-Japan" Society. Taking part in the conference, which will last 3 days, are more than 500 representatives of the two countries -- politicians, parliamentary deputies, scientists, writers, representatives of the mass media and the trade unions, and so forth.

This year's conference is the third. Its two predecessors, held in Tokyo and Moscow, demonstrated the usefulness, importance and necessity of such meetings, which offer an opportunity to discuss important problems concerning the development of bilateral relations and the strengthening of peace and security in the region of Asia and the Far East and throughout the world in the form of a frank dialogue in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and good will. This is particularly important today, now that Washington has set a course sharply exacerbating the international situation and renouncing the detente policy.

All this causes concern among the Japanese public, which advocates the development of good-neighborly, friendly relations with the USSR and the expansion and deepening of mutual understanding between the two countries. This is indicated by the content of the main report delivered by S. Matsumae, head of the Japanese delegation and chairman of the Association for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries. While expressing regret over the stagnation in Japanese-Soviet relations, he nonetheless noted that even in these conditions certain successes have been achieved in the past year in developing ties in various spheres. Our task, he said, is to seek ways of ensuring stable development of Japanese-Soviet relations and elaborating principles for these relations similar to those on which other Western countries' relations with the USSR are based.

T.B. Guzhenko, head of the Soviet delegation, USSR minister and chairman of the board of the "USSR-Japan" Society, who delivered the other main report, noted that in the 25 years since the normalization of relations between the two countries it has been possible to achieve considerable results in extending and strengthening good-neighborly ties. He noted that these results could be much greater were it not for the policy of certain circles in Japan which are trying to retard the development of relations. The strengthening of good-neighborliness between the USSR and Japan, he said, would promote the stabilization of the Far East situation and have a favorable effect on the situation in Asia as a whole. It would become stable and reach new heights if a firm, treaty basis were created to underlie the relations of good-neighborliness and cooperation. In the Soviet side's opinion, he noted, these aims would be served by the conclusion of a treaty on good-neighborliness and cooperation, for which a draft has long since been conveyed to the Japanese side and still remains valid. The task is to focus attention on the quest for mutually acceptable solutions taking existing realities into account, on the discovery of opportunities for bringing viewpoints closer together and particularly on the creation of an atmosphere of mutual trust and good will.

Tomorrow the conference will continue its work in commissions.

Call for Better Relations

PM271201 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Apr 82 Morning Edition p 5

[Report by special correspondents N. Novikov and K. Rashidov: "In the Interests of Good-Neighborliness"]

[Text] Tokyo -- The third "roundtable" conference of Soviet and Japanese public representatives has opened in the Japanese capital. The theme of the forum is "The Development of Soviet-Japanese Relations Through Dialogue." The theme is topical. Moreover, it also reflects the widespread desire in both countries for a businesslike discussion of topical present-day problems and for an improvement of mutual relations between the USSR and Japan through the deepening of mutual understanding.

The Soviet people have always thought that all-round, fruitful cooperation accords with the interests of our country and of Japan and is capable of favorably influencing the political climate in Asia.

A large Soviet delegation comprising prominent members of the public, scientists and journalists went to Tokyo to discuss questions relating to Soviet-Japanese relations.

At the first plenary session which opened on the afternoon of 20 April the conferent participants were welcomed by H. Ishida, chairman of the Parliamentary Association for Japanese-Soviet Friendship; V.Ya. Pavlov, USSR ambassador to Japan; I. Asukata, chairman of the Japan Socialist Party's Central Executive Committee; J. Yano, secretary general of the Komeito party; M. Makieda, chairman of the General Council of Japanese Trade Unions; parliamentary Deputy M. Takemoto and others.

The main reports at the conference were delivered by S. Matsumae, president of the Japanese Association for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, and Soviet delegation leader T.B. Guzhenko, chiarman of the board of the "USSR-Japan" Society, USSR Supreme Soviet deputy and USSR minister of the maritime fleet.

The Soviet representative noted that in the present international situation where the temperature has been raised to an extraordinarily high level by aggressive militarist circles, active participation by the public at large in world affairs is becoming especially urgent and important, and the question of the development of good-neighborly relations between the Soviet Union and Japan, which are having a substantial influence on the situation in Asia, acquires great significance in this connection.

It is now more than 25 years since the normalization of relations between our countries. It can be said with satisfaction that during this period the peoples of the Soviet Union and Japan have achieved considerable results in expanding and strengthening good-neighborly ties. A sober consideration of our countries' objective need for peaceful coexistence despite different social system has helped bring about mutual accords on many questions. It must be said, however, that recently relations between our countries, far from undergoing the desired development, have in fact become frozen to some extent. These are the consequences of overt attempts by certain forces in Japan itself to discard the results achieved. Many obstacles are being placed by outside forces in the way of good-neighborliness between Japan and the USSR. The hackneyed myth of a "Soviet threat" which Japan is being pushed to subscribe to is of foreign origin. There is no doubt that the ballyhoo over the fictitious "threat" is useful only to those who want a pretext for the militarization of Japan, for involving it in Washington's "global strategy."

The Soviet Union has always consistently advocated good-neighborliness and mutually advantageous ties with Japan. Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, has stressed more than once that we want to live with the Japanese people as good neighbors, we do not want anything to mar these relations and we want an atmosphere of trust, benevolence and cooperation in them.

The Soviet Union has invariably pursued this line and has never taken any steps directed against Japan.

The development of Soviet-Japanese relations would become more steady and would reach a qualitatively new level if these relations of good-neighborliness and cooperation were placed on a sound treaty basis. The Soviet Union's proposals on this question are well known. They were mentioned once again recently by N.A. Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, who confirmed that the Soviet proposal on concluding a treaty on good-neighborliness and cooperation remains in force.

If Japan is willing, a document acceptable to both sides could be elaborated on the basis of the Soviet draft. The Soviet Union is also prepared to examine the Japanese side's proposals on this matter of importance to both sides.

The public in both countries has a big part to play in solving the question of the further development of Soviet-Japanese relations. The focusing of attention on the quest for mutually acceptable solutions taking into account existing realities, the revelation of possibilities for bringing viewpoints closer together, the creation of an atmosphere of mutual trust and benevolence -- these are the urgent and very important tasks that face them.

In his report Japanese representative S. Matsumae expressed concern over the present state of Japanese-Soviet relations. He stressed the importance of improving them and noted the possibility of joint actions in the struggle to halt the arms race, to preserve peace and normalize the international situation. If Japanese-Soviet relations were to reach a new higher level on the basis of trust and mutual understanding, he stressed, this would not only serve to ease tension in the Far East and in Asia, but would also be a new step toward preserving world peace.

The conference continues.

IZVESTIYA Comments

PM270851 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Apr 82 Morning Edition p 5

[Special correspondents N. Novikov and K. Rashikov report: "The Watchword Is Cooperation"]

[Text] Tokyo -- Promoting by every means the establishment of stable relations between the USSR and Japan -- that is the slogan under which the third "roundtable" conference of representatives of the Soviet and Japanese public took place in Tokyo from 20 through 22 April. The local press, radio and television are commenting extensively on the results of the forum, which is designed, ASAHI writes, to play an important part in the search for mutually acceptable proposals in the further development of relations between the two countries.

The Japanese newspapers have published a series of interviews and speeches by the Soviet participants in the conference speaking of the USSR's sincere desire to strengthen good-neighborly relations with Japan based on mutual trust and setting out our country's consistent, principled position on this question.

The Japanese mass media are citing statements by eminent Japanese statesmen and politicians displaying great interest in the frank and topical "roundtable" discussions.

Such widespread attention toward the forum is no accident. It is an open secret now that international relations, which were formerly a sphere of activity almost exclusively reserved for states and governments, are now experiencing the mounting impact of public opinion. The broad masses are coming out increasingly frequently and actively in the political arena, making their amendments to the solution of topical problems worrying all people in the world. One of them, the most global and urgent, is the struggle for peace and disarmament and against the looming nuclear threat fueled by Washington's aggressive policy.

The powerful wave of antinuclear and antimilitary demonstrations which has literally lashed the whole of Japan in the past few days is graphic evidence that the people of that country sincerely want peace and are seeking to make their contribution to the struggle against nuclear hysteria. The slogans with which the Japanese are coming out onto the streets now include a resolute demand for the elimination of the U.S. military bases on their territory and the abrogation of the Japanese-U.S. "Security Treaty."

It is from precisely these positions of broad public participation in the discussion of topical problems that the country's progressive press assesses the conference taking place under the watchword "The Development of Soviet-Japanese Relations Through Dialogue."

All the world's ordinary people are now interested in good-neighborliness and mutually advantageous cooperation. This interest is generated by the mortal threat of a thermonuclear catastrophe and covers the broadest strata of the population. The conference, in which about 500 representatives of the Japanese and Soviet public took part on both sides, noted in particular the Soviet and Japanese peoples' desire to make their own fitting contribution to the movement for peace and universal disarmament.

There was also a discussion of questions of the present international situation, the state and prospects for the development of the two countries' political and diplomatic relations and ways of expanding cooperation and exchanges in the sphere of trade, the economy, culture and science, sports and tourism. Particular note was made of the mass media's role in consolidating mutual understanding between our peoples and the further development and consolidation of the movement for friendship.

The conference unanimously noted that there is no more important task now for the Japanese and Soviet peoples, as for all people on our planet, than defending peace. The limitation and curtailment of armaments, right up to their total elimination, is the most reliable path toward this.

Those taking part in the conference also advocated ensuring that the governments of all Asian countries galvanize their efforts in the search for ways of establishing international relations on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence, particularly efforts to extend confidence-building measures in the Far East and to conclude a convention on the consolidation of guarantees of the security of nonnuclear states and agreements on the nondeployment of nuclear weapons on the territories of those states where there are no such weapons now.

It was also noted that it is essential to make every effort to prevent a decline in relations between the Soviet Union and Japan and to reduce the sphere of differences. The representatives of the two countries' public resolved to promote by every means the creation of an atmosphere of trust and good will between them by further developing ties and dialogue at all levels and expanding and strengthening ties between public organizations in order to ensure a favorable climate for the expansion of political contacts and trade and economic cooperation, seeking to conclude an intergovernment long-term agreement in this sphere.

In the economic sphere, the conference participants noted, it is necessary to lift the economic sanctions against the USSR which were introduced under conditions of the deterioration of the international situation recently since these sanctions impede the development of Soviet-Japanese economic cooperation and run counter to the interests of the two countries' peoples.

A joint communique of the "roundtable" of representatives of the Soviet and Japanese public was adopted. It states in particular that different viewpoints were voiced at the conference on some questions connected with the search for ways of strengthening Soviet-Japanese relations. At the same time the participants believe that great significance for the development of Soviet-Japanese relations attaches to the building of a firm long-term foundation beneath them.

They call on the two countries' governments to embark immediately on the discussion of a document enshrining the principles, universally recognized in international practice, of relations between countries with different social systems and facilitating the two countries' further advance toward the conclusion of a peace treaty. The conference also decided to appeal to the Soviet and Japanese public to spare no effort to develop relations between the USSR and Japan in a spirit of friendship and cooperation. The development and consolidation of Soviet-Japanese ties, the communique notes, is useful in all respects to both countries and at the same time is an integral element of the consolidation of peace and security in Asia.

SELSKAYA ZHIZN Article

PM281111 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 24 Apr 82 p 3

[Article by Sergey Zinchuk under the rubric "Our Commentary": "For Dialogue With Japan"]

[Text] "The Development of Friendship Between Japan and the USSR Through Dialogue" -- that was the slogan under which the third Soviet-Japanese "roundtable" conference took place in Tokyo. Representatives of the public of the two countries discussed topical present-day problems, in particular measures to avert the threat of nuclear war and questions of strengthening peace and consolidating relations of trust in the Far East.

The speeches delivered at the meeting by representatives of the Japanese public reflected the mounting anxiety of broad strata of the population with the course of those circles in the country which are counting on following blindly in the wake of U.S. imperialist strategy. An increasing number of inhabitants of the Japanese Islands regard such a policy as pernicious and realize that it is not the arms race but the easing of international tension and the development of dialogue with the USSR which accord with Japan's national interests.

Japanese business and political circles include many people who are aware of the benefit of expanding cooperation with the USSR and creating a good basis of good-neighborliness. This is borne out by the indicators for the development of Soviet-Japanese business ties whose consolidation is advocated by many leading Japanese business representatives. Thus, while in 1980 the total volume of commodity turnover between the USSR and Japan was R2.7 billion, last year it was in excess of R3 billion.

The "roundtable" conference reaffirmed the Japanese public's readiness to make every effort to restablish Japanese-Soviet relations on the basis of mutual trust. As for the USSR's position, it was set forth absolutely clearly in his speech in Tashkent by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev. He urged our Japanese neighbors to consider once again the Soviet proposals aimed at establishing relations of good-neighborliness, mutually advantageous cooperation and mutual trust between the USSR and Japan.

Joint Communique

PM280837 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Apr 82 p 5

[Special correspondents Yu. Vdovin and N. Prozhogin dispatch: "To Spare No Effort"]

[Text] Tokyo, 22 Apr -- Those participanting in the third "roundtable" conference of the Soviet and Japanese public, which has been held in Tokyo, have called for no effort to be spared for the development of relations of friendship and cooperation. The development and strengthening of Soviet-Japanese ties, they declared in a joint communique adopted today, are useful to both countries in every respect and are at the same time an integral element in consolidating peace and security in Asia.

The conference, which lasted 3 days, was organized by a special committee including five Japanese organizations that advocated the development of relations with the USSR in various spheres, and also the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and the "USSR-Japan" Society. About 500 public representatives of the two countries -- politicians and representatives of the business world, leaders and activists in public organizations, scientists, journalists, literary figures, and so forth -- took part.

We call on the governments of both countries the participants declared, to start immediately discussing a document that would enshrine the principles generally recognized in international practice as governing relations between states with different social systems and would facilitate continued progress by the two countries toward the conclusion of a peace treaty. The conference pointed to the need for the abolition of the Japanese economic sanctions adopted against the USSR under conditons of the recent deterioration in the international situation in the belief that they hamper the development of Japanese-Soviet economic cooperation and run counter to the interests of both countries' peoples.

Those participating in the third "roundtable" conference, the joint communique says, believe that for the Soviet and Japanese peoples, as for all the world's people, there is today no more important task than to defend peace. The most reliable way to do this is to limit and reduce arms until they are completely eliminated. We advocate securing the complete and universal prohibition of nuclear, neutron, chemical and other types of weapons of mass destruction, they declared.

The conference noted the need to step up the efforts of all governments of Asian countries in the quest for ways of asserting the principles of peaceful coexistence in interstate relations, in particular efforts to extend confidence-building measures to the Far East and to conclude a convention strengthening the guarantees of security for nonnuclear states and agreements on not deploying nuclear weapons on the territory of states where no such weapons exist at present.

The results of the Tokyo conference show the usefulness and necessity of holding such meetings when it comes to deepening mutual understanding, strengthening cooperation and expanding relations between the two countries.

USSR, JAPAN SIGN SALMON FISHING PROTOCOL FOR '82

LD240110 Moscow TASS in English 1612 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] Moscow, 23 Apr, TASS -- Soviet-Japanese intergovernmental talks on the order and conditions of the Japanese salmon fishing in the north-western part of the Pacific in 1982 ended in Moscow today. The protocol was signed on behalf of the Soviet side by the USSR minister of fisheries, Vladimir Kamentsev, and on behalf of the Japanese side by the charge d'affaires ad interim of Japan in the USSR, H. Ovada.

OFFICIALS RECEIVE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR TO MOSCOW

Deputy Foreign Minister

PM281533 Moscow IZVESTIYA In Russian 25 Apr 82 Morning Edition p 4

[Text] TASS -- N.P. Firyubin, USSR deputy foreign minister, received Japanese Ambassador Masuo Takashima on 23 April in connection with his upcoming presentation of credentials.

Vasiliy Kuznetsov

OW290513 Tokyo KYODO in English 0409 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Text] Moscow, 29 Apr, KYODO -- Vasiliy Kuznetsov, first vice chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium , told new Japanese Ambassador to Moscow Masuo Takashima Wednesday that it should be possible to develop good neighborly relations between the two countries.

Takashima said in reply that the two countries had a common desire of maintaining good relations between them. But he added that Japan and the Soviet Union had different approaches to the goal from each other. That difference must be made clear through dialogue, and further dialogue must be held from there, Takashima said.

The new Japanese envoy, calling on Kuznetsov to present his credentials, apparently indicated that Japan is ready to maintain its policy toward the Soviet Union unchanged, including its claim to the four Soviet-held northern islands.

MOSCOW CEREMONIES MARK ANNIVERSARY OF DPRK ARMY

PM290849 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Apr 82 p 3

[TASS report: "May Friendship Strengthen"]

[Text] A meeting of representatives of the capital's public and servicemen of the Moscow garrison to mark the 50th anniversary of the Korean People's Army was held on 23 April in the Red Banner Hall of the M.V. Frunze central house of the Soviet Army.

In the meeting presidium were Col Gen A.D. Lizichev, deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; other Soviet generals and admirals; Ye. V. Ivanov, first deputy chairman of the Presidium of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries; veterans of the battles to liberate Korea from the Japanese militarists; representatives of the capital's public and servicemen of the Moscow garrison. Also present were Chin Si-kun, DPRK charge d'affaires ad interim in the USSR, and other Korean guests.

The meeting was opened by A.I. Kostenko, deputy chairman of Moscow Gorispolkom.

Adm N.N. Amelko, deputy chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff, delivered the report. He described the history of the creation of the Korean People's Army, born during the Korean people's many years of struggle for national and social liberation. Favorable conditions for the successful completion of this struggle were created in August 1945 when the Soviet army defeated Japanese militarism's shock grouping in the Far East -- the Kwantung Army.

After liberation and the formation of the DPRK the building of a new life began in the country. It took place in a complex situation. The 1950-1953 war against U.S. imperialism and the reactionary Seoul clique was a hard trial for the Korean people. The DPRK working people rose to defend their motherland and won victory. Throughout the war the Korean people invariably received aid and support from the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries.

The years which have elapsed since Korea's liberation have convincingly shown that the relations of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the DPRK accord with the fundamental interests of the Soviet and Korean peoples and the interests of safeguarding peace and security in the Far East and throughout the world.

Those assembled were also addressed by Col (Kan Son Cher), military, naval and air attache at the DPRK Embassy in the USSR.

A concert was held after the meeting.

On the same day Col (Kan Son Cher) held a reception to mark the anniversary. It was attended by generals, admirals and officers of the Soviet Armed Forces. The guests included military, naval and air attaches from the embassies of a number of foreign states.

Chin Si-kun, DPRK charge d'affaires ad interim in the USSR, was present.

An exhibition devoted to the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the Korean People's Army has opened at the USSR Armed Forces central museum.

Photo Exhibition

SK270800 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] The opening ceremony of an exhibition marking the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Korean People's Army [KPA] was held on 23 April at the Soviet army's central museum in Moscow. The ceremony was attended by general officers of the Soviet army, war veterans and officers and men of the Moscow garrison. Invited to the ceremony were Col (Kang Son-choe), military attache of the DPRK Embassy in Moscow, and Embassy staff members.

Opening the exhibition, Colonel (Paktukov), officer in charge of the museum exhibition hall, said: [Recording in Russian fading into Korean translation] It has been a tradition to organize exhibition functions on the occasion of the anniversary of the KPA founding. This exhibition, marking the 50th anniversary of the KPA, attaches importance to the firm ties of friendship among international armies and to the Soviet people's fraternal solidarity with the struggle of the Korean people to create favorable conditions for making the U.S. forces withdraw from South Korea and achieving the reunification of the country on the basis of the principle of peace and democracy. [end recording]

Col (Kang Son-choe), military attache of the DPRK Embassy in Moscow, spoke next. He said: [Begin recording] Esteemed comrades and dear friends: 25 April will mark the 50th anniversary of the founding of the KPA. I express deep thanks to you for holding a photograph exhibition at this museum to mark the anniversary of the KPA and for inviting us. [applause]

Photograph exhibitions have traditionally been held in Pyongyang and Moscow to mark the anniversary of the founding of the KPA and the anniversary of the founding of the Soviet army. These photograph exhibitions not only play a positive role in introducing the successes and experiences attained in the military and political exercises of militarymen, but also contribute to strengthening and developing the cooperative relations between the armies of the two countries. [end recording]

The KPA military attache told the participants about the history of the KPA founding, the exploits performed by officers and men of the KPA in the Korean people's fatherland liberation war against the U.S. imperialist aggression and the KPA's task to defend the gains of socialism. He said:

[Begin recording] I take this opportunity to express thanks to the Soviet people and Soviet army for their active support and encouragement for the just struggle of our people for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country. [applause] The friendship between the Korean and Soviet peoples has a long history. The peoples of the two countries have maintained friendly and cooperative relations in the struggle against imperialism and for the victory of socialism and have constantly developed these relations. Strengthening the friendly and cooperative relations between Korea and the Soviet Union accords with the desire and interests of the peoples of the two countries.

We always remember the Soviet Union's assistance in our liberation and its support and encouragement for us in the fatherland liberation war and post-war periods. We are grateful for this. We will make all efforts to further strengthen and develop the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries forged on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

I take this opportunity to sincerely wish the Soviet people and officers and men of the Soviet army great success in their struggle to implement the decision of the 26th CPSU Congress and to greet the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics as a great festival. [end recording]

SHITIKOV RECEIVES SRI LANKA FOREIGN MINISTER

LD281750 Moscow TASS in English 1515 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Moscow, 28 Apr (OANA/TASS) -- Chairman of the Soviet of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet Aleksey Shitikov held today a friendly conversation with minister of foreign affairs of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka A.C. Shahul Hameed. It was pointed out that the foreign policy activity of the USSR Supreme Soviet aimed at preserving and consolidating peace, and at mutually advantageous cooperation with all states. In this connection, importance was stressed of the new peace initiatives put forward by Leonid Brezhnev.

A.C. Shahul Hameed met with the activists of the USSR-Sri Lanka Friendship Society. He said in his statement that Sri Lanka attaches big importance to mutual understanding between the two countries. During the meetings with the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, Nikolay Tikhonov, and with Andrey Gromyko, the guest said, a wide range of issues came in for discussion, having to do with a further consolidation of bilateral relations. The guest commented on the importance of developing friendly relations between all states in the interests of preserving peace in the world.

The minister paid a visit to the Lenin Mausoleum and laid a wreath. A wreath was also laid at the Unknown Soldier's Tomb near the Kremlin Wall.

NOVOYE VREMYA VIEWS PROGRESS OF DRA REVOLUTION

PM281527 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 17, 23 Apr 82 pp 20-22

[A. Usvatov article: "The Revolution Fights and Creates"]

[Text] Kabul, Moscow -- In Kabul's central square, in front of the Arg fortress palace, which now houses the headquarters of the DRA Revolutionary Council, a tank stands on a high pedestal. This combat vehicle, which was driven by Maj M.A. Watanjar (now a member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and the republic's minister of communications), was the first to storm the presidential palace on 27 April 1978.

The tank is a relic recalling the days when the April Revolution was begun and completed under the PDPA's leadership, setting a country which was backward in socioeconomic terms on the path of national democratic development.

The most difficult times lay ahead. Democratic transformations met with fierce resistance from the feudalists and their underlings. The counterrevolutionaries received all-round support from forces of imperialism and reaction outside the country. Those forces unleashed an undeclared war against the republic.

Tremendous damage was also done to the party and the whole country in the initial period by the splittist, antiparty activity of the clique led by H. Amin, whose repressive, essentially provocative policy temporarily deformed the progressive, revolutionary process, led many Afghans astray and provided material for counterrevolutionary propaganda.

With the start of the new stage of the April Revolution on 27 December 1979, when healthy, patriotic PDRA forces came to power, it became possible to stabilize the situation in the country, restore revolutionary legality and channel efforts into creating an atmosphere of mutual trust and unity in party ranks and rallying the broad people's masses and all patriotic strata of society in the name of the defense of the motherland and the revolution.

"Labor by Everyone"

The results of the constructive, purposeful activity of the party and the revolutionary authorities in the interests of working people and the whole people are now obvious to any unprejudiced observer and -- most important -- are felt more and more by the Afghans themselves.

There have already been considerable achievements, although many democratic social and economic transformations are taking place more slowly than the party had planned. It is not the party which is to blame for this -- it is imperialist, reactionary forces, which organize, train and arm basmak gangs and send them into the country to carry out mass killings and sabotage.

Nonetheless, the country is developing and advancing. In the last year by the Afghan calendar, which ended on 20 March, gross national product increased by 2.4 percent. Seventeen new enterprises were commissioned. In the year which has just begun the plan envisages a growth in the total volume of production by over 6 percent and in industrial output of 10 percent. To this end the enterprises whose work has been disrupted by the counterrevolutionaries' actions must be restored rapidly.

The land and water reform in the interests of the bulk of the peasants and nomads continued to be implemented in the revolution's fourth year. This reform is in essence the material basis for the national democratic revolution in the conditions of a backward agrarian country. A number of legislative acts have been adopted guaranteeing the just implementation of the reform, taking account of established traditions and customs, so as to prevent errors and excesses such as happened at first.

Some 760,000 peasant families have been released from the payment of tax debits for the last 3 years. The state is granting the peasants 6,000 tons of seed for high-yield grain for this year's spring sowing. Wages for low-paid workers and employees have increased appreciably. In the academic year which began on 22 March, more than 80 percent of school-age children took their places at desks. And more than 550,000 adult Afghans are learning to read and write at classes for the elimination of illiteracy.

The word "first" can be applied to much that is now appearing in the ancient Afghan land. The first peasant cooperatives and the first machine and tractor stations, the first sanatoriums for factory workers and the first Pioneer camps for schoolchildren....

People respond to the concern displayed for them with diligent work. In first one city then another the inhabitants, on their day off, voluntarily do unpaid work on the upkeep of the streets, the repair of roads and housing -- this is a manifestation, in the new conditions, of the ancient Afghan village tradition called "khoshar," which can be translated as "labor by everyone."

Contrary to the lying expatiations by the enemies of the people's power under cover of the false slogan of the "struggle for the faith," a policy of complete respect for the Islamic religion is being steadily implemented in the DRA. Moreover, it was the republic's government which, last winter, saw to it that the mosques were given help with fuel and, according to Kabul's BAKHTAR agency, appropriated 5 million Afghanis for the repair and reconstruction of mosques destroyed by the self-styled "fighters for the faith." Using state resources, 29 new mosques and prayer houses have been constructed.

Alongside freedom of religion, Democratic Afghanistan has proclaimed the equality of the nationalities, ethnic groups and tribes living in the country. It has proclaimed and also guaranteed that equality. For the first time in Afghan history they have all been given the practical opportunity to take part in political, public and economic life.

I saw literally throngs of tribal elders, leaders and simply emissaries from villages gathered outside the Ministry for the Nationalities and Tribes, which was reorganized last summer, in the rooms of its executives and in the office of the minister himself, Sulayman Laeq. They go there from far afield, with faith in the justice of the people's power, to resolve their urgent problems -- from major problems of principle to seemingly private, everyday problems.

When I asked S. Laeq what had brought a particular group of picturesquely dressed people to his office, he replied: "These are representatives of tribes living on the Afghan-Pakistan border. Some are from the other side of the border, but they all regard themselves as Afghans. They are asking for help with food and transport. At the same time they have offered to close certain sections of the border so as not to let the dushman bandits in, and they have asked how they can maintain contact with army subunits...."

A Priority Task

At the end of March a group of correspondents for Britain's BBC television company recorded an interview in Kabul with Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council. The Afghan leader fittingly rebuffed the fabrications -- endlessly repeated by Western propaganda -- to the effect that "Afghanistan has virtually no armed forces" and that "operations to ensure the country's security are carried out by Soviet soldiers." "The DRA's armed forces today," B. Karmal said, "are the mightiest in our country's history. Were it not for the mercenaries, for the existence of about 80 military training centers for them on Pakistani territory, if these mercenaries were not sent into our territory with American weapons and money, I would be able to assure you that in 3-6 months you would be able to go anywhere in our country and the limited contingent of Soviet troops would go home. But for that to happen, there must be guarantees of the nonresumption of interference and aggression by reactionary forces from Pakistani territory against Afghanistan."

In the past year the People's Armed Forces, the People's Militia and the security organs, with the support of the local population, have struck mighty blows against the enemies of the Afghan revolution. A large number of basmak gangs have been routed and weapons and other equipment of American, Chinese, Pakistani and Egyptian manufacture taken from them. All this has helped to strengthen security in many regions.

But the counterrevolution is still doing its dark deeds, resorting to subversive and terrorist actions first in one place, then in another. Through these mercenary dushmans, imperialism continues to wage an undeclared war against Revolutionary Afghanistan.

"...Victory over the forces of counterrevolution, over the aggressors and bandits, will not come of its own accord. It requires full mobilization of all our forces and materials potential, courage, staunchness and endurance.... Victory can be won if we all fight for it together, as one" -- these are lines from the "Appeal to the Afghan People" adopted at the first nationwide PDPA conference, held in March.

People in Afghanistan assessed that conference as an event of exceptional importance. And indeed, it elaborated the "PDPA of Action", program which defines the strategy and tactics for the struggle for Afghanistan's renewal and outlines concrete ways of making further progress with the conditions and opportunities that prevail in the country.

Babrak Karmal, who delivered the main report, expressed the essence of the April Revolution and all the party's activity in these laconic words: "We are guided by a simple, clear aim: to make our people happy and our motherland prosperous." But, he noted, "This lofty aim cannot be achieved all at once. The transition from profound backwardness to all-round progress requires time and conscious, planned efforts by all the people.... Our April Revolution...is a national democratic revolution, anti-imperialist in nature." Hence, too, the general democratic goals set by this revolution: the elimination of feudal and prefeudal vestiges, restrictions on the property of big landowners, allocation of land to peasants with little or no land, development of the national economy, improvement of the people's living standard, development of the culture of all ethnic groups and tribes and consistent democratization of public and political life.

The unification of all Afghan patriots is promoted by the activity of the National Fatherland Front, which was formed in summer 1981. It combined in a single force all the national patriotic and progressive forces from various classes, strata and groups of the Afghan population in the name of building a new, just society and defending the country's independence against imperialist encroachments.

Kabul's Peace Efforts

Our Afghan friends' priority task today is, they believe, to complete the defeat of the armed counterrevolution, establish and firmly consolidate the revolutionary power wherever the reactionary forces' undeclared war is still being waged against it and ensure lasting civil peace in the country.

As is stressed in the PDPA action program, the cornerstone of DRA foreign policy is the strengthening and development of relations of fraternal friendship and traditional multifaceted cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries. Herein lies the guarantee of the defense of Afghanistan and the resolutionary transformations which are taking place there and the necessary condition of its advance along the path of progress.

The republic has repeatedly demonstrated its adherence to the cause of peace. It consistently makes efforts to normalize relations with neighboring countries. In its statements of 14 May 1980 and 24 August 1981 the DRA Government expressed in flexible form and with consideration for its partners' positions its good will toward the establishment of normal, friendly relations with Pakistan and Iran through talks. This would make it possible to resolve the problems which exist between them and thereby to radically improve the situation in the region and put an end to the tense situation which has been artifically created around Afghanistan. Unfortunately the appeal from Kabul has yet to meet with a response from either Islamabad, on which Washington and Beijing are bringing pressure to bear, or Tehran. Nonetheless people in Afghanistan hope that the mediation mission started on 10 April by a personal representative of the new UN secretary general, who is visiting the three Middle Eastern capitals in turn, will help to bring the sides together for constructive talks.

The 7 days leading up to the fourth anniversary of the April Revolution have been declared by the WPC to be a week of solidarity with the struggling Afghan people -- specifically with the people who are defending the independence and freedom of their revolutionary motherland. Solidarity with them is very broad, worldwide. Unlike the solidarity which U.S. President R. Reagan was calling for on 21 March -- he himself was expressing solidarity and wanted others to express solidarity with the bandit rabble who sow blood and tears on Afghan soil and seek, with imperialism's help, to take the country back to the Middle Ages.

But nobody is capable of doing that. The sun of freedom which rose over Democratic Afghanistan with the April Revolution cannot be extinguished.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA CARRIES PHOTO OF OFFICERS IN DRA

PM290815 [Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian on 21 April carries on page one, under the rubric "On Afghanistan's Soil," a head-and-shoulders photograph of two officers wearing steel helmets and greatcoats and beaming broadly. The paper accompanies the photo with the following caption:

"To look at these officers you would never think that they had taken part in an extremely difficult march up a steep and narrow snaking path and had stormed a pass. Nevertheless, only a little earlier the motorized rifle companies under the command of Sr Lt Anvar Dzhumayev and Capt Viktor Revnev were marching along the mountain roads and fulfilling a complex combat training task.

"The Alma-Ata Higher Combined Arms Command School named for Marshal of the Soviet Union I.S. Konev and the Tashkent Higher Combined Arms Command School named for V.I. Lenin are entitled to be proud of their graduates. Sr Lt A. Dzhumayev (left of photo) has been awarded the Medal for Valor and Capt V. Renev has been awarded the Order of the Red Star."

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA: POLITICAL WORKERS' ROLE IN DRA

Part One

PM230841 [Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian on 15 April publishes on page 2 the 2,000-word first part of a report from special correspondent Col A. Sbignev under the rubric "From an Afghan Notebook," headed "Comrade Political Workers." The item begins by quoting a letter from a Soviet serviceman who has served in Afghanistan to his comrades who are still there, describing political workers as the "heirs of the commissars." Sbignev then describes the work of political personnel among Soviet servicemen in the DRA, noting the part played by letters and messages from relatives and from plants and enterprises at home. Sbignev states that "correspondence between subunits and workers' or kolkhoz collectives, which is conducted actively and with interest by both sides, strengthens morale and increases the officers' and men's sense of responsibility for successes in service and for maintaining exemplary military order." He asserts that it is the paramount duty of political workers to "take very opportunity to strengthen and extend ties with the motherland."

Part Two

PM290919 [Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian on 17 April carries on page 2 the 2,000-word second and final part of the Col A. Sbignev report "Comrade Political Workers." Sbignev quotes from letters received by Soviet servicemen in the DRA from their families at home. The families are of different nationalities but "are united in understanding and approving the international duty that has fallen to the lot of their sons." Sbignev cites a reassuring letter from a political worker to a serviceman's wife who had complained of not hearing from her husband and comments: "Here, too, the political worker is mentor, teacher, friend!" In the final section of the report Sbignev describes how political workers look after servicemen's interests by helping to improve the standard of food and accomodation, set up libraries, and so forth. "They are not afraid to combat indifference, callousness and uncaring attitudes," he declares. He describes instances of selfless behavior by political workers: One shared his food with soldiers, another refused to sit in the warmest spot in a tent. "The political workers of the eighties are very like the party fighters who went through the flames of the war," he writes.

ROMANOV ADDRESSES SESSION OF LAO PARTY CONGRESS

LD281444 Moscow TASS in English 1412 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Vientiane, 28 Apr, TASS -- At the present troubled time the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries are puting to the fore the task of limiting and curtailing the arms race, stated Grigoriy Romanov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, the first secretary of the Leningrad Regional Committee of the CPSU. He spoke at the current Third Congress of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party here today.

We have put forward proposals on reaching accords at all negotiations which in this or that way concern these topical problems, Grigoriy Romanov went on to say. More over, we have not only put forward constructive proposals but also substantiated them by concrete actions. The world public has taken the bold and well-considered initiatives advanced by Leonid Brezhnev in his recnet speeches at the 17th Congress of Trade Unions and in Tashkent as manifestation of the sense of high responsibility for the destinies of mankind and as a new reaffirmation of the Soviet Union's determination to secure the implementation of the peace program for the eighties, adopted by the 26th Congress of the CPSU.

In his recent answer to the question asked by a PRAVDA correspondent, Leonid Brezhnev, touching upon Soviet-U.S. relations, pointed out that we are for the holding of such a summit meeting between our two countries which would correspond to the high responsibility of the United States of America and the Soviet Union for the state of affairs in the world and would justify the hopes being set upon it.

Together with other fraternal countries we strive to secure that the process of detente become of all-embracing character and that detente triumph in Europe, in Asia, in Central America, in Africa -- triumph everywhere, Grigoriy Romanov said.

Touching upon the situation in Asia, Leonid Brezhnev emphasized that "our policy in this continent, just as in all other ones, is a policy of strengthening peace and of a firm rebuff to the enemies of peace, a policy of peaceful cooperation with all those who want it, a policy of fraternal friendship with socialist countries, of solidarity with all forces of social progress, and a policy of upholding the sovereign rights of the peoples. We shall never swerve off this firm Leninist basis of our foreign policy".

The Soviet Union fully shares the peace efforts of Laos, Vietnam and Kampuchea which consistently come out in favour of the normalization of the situation in Asia, and in favour of making Southeast Asia a zone of peace and stability, Grigoriy Romanov pointed out. In the close friendship between the three countries in Indochina we see an influential factor of improving the international climate in this part of the world.

We soberly take into account another circumstance, too, namely: in the world there are forces which try to dictate their will to independent Asian states. They, those forces, stubbornly cling to the bankrupt policy of diktat and pressure and try to put pressure including that on the states of Indochina. But the Indochinese peoples have already proved that they can stand up for their freedom and independence and that their will cannot be broken. It would be well if this truth is assimilated by those who would like to bring back the yesterday of history.

It is amazing but over the one and a half years of its stay in office the new administration of the USA has not put forward a single proposal aimed at improving international relations, Grigoriy Romanov emphasized. Instead official Washingotn has been lavish with actions leading to the growth of war danger. One gathers the impression that the U.S. ruling circles shut their eyes to present-day realities. But realities are called realities because they exist. And whether Washington wants it or not these realities will make it reckon with them.

The socialist countries' policy is an honest and open one, he said in conclusion. We strive for peace for all countries and peoples. And we are inspired by the fact that this policy meets with vigorous support among the developing states, in the Non-Aligned Movement, and that it finds understanding with the realistically minded circles in capitalist countries. The entire progressive international public is for the policy of peace. It is precisely this policy, and it alone, that the future may belong to.

CONSEQUENCES OF CHEMICAL WARFARE IN VIETNAM

LD290838 Moscow TASS in English 0740 GMT 29 Apr 82

[Text] Moscow, 29 Apr, TASS -- The Pentagon's "defoliant rains" over South Vietnam started twenty years ago and ended already a decade ago, but they continue maiming and killing people to this day. This is pointed out in the newspaper MOSCOW NEWS of May 2, which writes on the aftermaths of U.S. chemical warfare in Vietnam. The newspaper has published a story by a Soviet journalist, who visited the areas of the SRV affected by the chemical weapons. It says that the people and nature of those areas "have fallen victim of the Pentagon's operation codenamed 'ranch hand.'" In the course of the operation over the period from 1961 to 1971 nearly 100 thousand tons of military-purpose chemical defoliants were dropped on the soil of Vietnam. The aim of that sinister operation, the story says, was to "destroy vegetation along the transport routes and in the places of supposed deployment of the patriotic armed forces, in order to destroy the natural cover and starve the guerrilla stronghold areas."

Until now, the newspaper writes, the U.S. authorities are trying to conceal some circumstances in connection with the "ranch hand" operation on the grounds that their publication "would inflict apparent damamge to national security," as well as "to the present and future relations" of the USA with other countries.

Former high-ranking Pentagon and U.S. State Department officials, who elaborated chemcial warfare plans for Indochina, "are referring now to their 'poor memory'" in refusing to admit their complicity. They have grounds for it, the newspaper points out: The point is that a reminder of the "defoilant rains" in Vietnam for Americans is what is happening in their own country, where 60,000 former American servicemen, who participated in the aggression in Indochina are complaining for everybody to hear that many of them and their children are victims of the "ranch hand" operation. The "agent orange" defoliant, which was sprayed from planes of the U.S. Air Force in the south of Vietnam, the story says, contains dioxine, a high toxic and stable cancerogene substance. Nearly 550 kilogrammes of dioxine were dropped in the south of Vietnam. While "even a thousandth fraction of miligramme of that poison per one kilogramme of living weight, as experiments have shown is fatal to living beings. Dioxine can cause various trouble in human beings, including premature birth, congenital malformation, liver and lung cancer...it is precisely in this respect that the medical statistics in South Vietnam looks increasingly alarming."

The newspaper quotes the opinion of professor Ton Thac Tung, a scientist of world renown, who heads the SRV national commission for investigation into the consequences of the use of the chemical weapons in Vietnam by the Pentagon. "In trying to conceal the aftermaths of the criminal chemical war in Indochina," he said, "the U.S. authorities have unleashed a campaign of slanders against Vietnam and the USSR, accusing them of alleged use of toxic chemicals in Kampuchea and Afghanistan. But counter to these lies there are irrefutable proofs of the use of chemical weapons in Indochina and its disastrous consequences for people..."

Touching upon the numerous cases of congenital malformation in Vietnam and the USA among the families of the participants in the Vietnam war, professor Tung said: "It is important to bear in mind that choromosome malformations arise not only in the persons who were directly subjected to the effects of 'agent orange'. They can be inherited. This means that various mutagenous defects may appear not only in the first, but also in the second and subsequent generations. Herein lies the appalling meaning of the phrase 'consequences of chemical warfare.'"

FRIENDSHIP OF SOVIET, POLISH FAMILIES DESCRIBED

PM281535 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian on 3 April carries on page 3, under the headline "Lieutenant Kolya," a 1,250-word report from Sverdlovsk by T. Kurashova. The report quotes from the wartime letters of the lieutenant of the title, who was killed in 1944 in the fighting on the outskirts of Warsaw. The lieutenant's family, the Panteleyevs, traveled to Poland to search for his grave and during the trip became friendly with the Karolak family of Minsk-Mazowiecki. The report continued:

"Last year the Panteleyev family waited for news from Poland with particular emotion; how were their friends there?" "The letters that came were alarming. 'January 1981. As you know, things are going badly in our country. This greatly worries us party members! The situation in our country is very complex and dangerous. Reactionary elements are raising their heads and there are many disturbances....' For a long time there was no news from the Karolaks. At last a registered letter arrived in December: 'We're getting nothing from you.' 'Solidarity extremists are operating in the mails. I'm sending a registered letter, to be handed straight to you. I don't know whether it will reach you,' Karolak reported. 'My health is deteriorating. How could it be otherwise in this atmosphere? During the war and the Hitlerite occupation I and many Poles fought against the fascist invaders. Then we built a new Poland with enthusiasm. And, with the Soviet Union's assistance, our people managed to achieve a great deal. But unfortunately, during the wave of criticism of the former leadership's errors, counterrevolutionary elements have raised their heads. Solidarity extremists have conceived the intention of seizing power....'

"The Pantelyevevs congratulated their Polish friends on the New Year as usual and waited for a reply. It came:

"'January 13 1982. Dear Friends: Now we can breathe more easily!' Henryk Karolak wrote. 'Because since the introduction of martial law in the country on 13 December the Solidarity ringleaders and other reactionaries have been isolated. The Military Council of National Salvation headed by Gen W. Jaruzelski stopped the counterrevolution, which wanted to perpetrate a coup on 17 December.... What is needed now is great ideological, political, public and economic work by the party and the people's power. The Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries are providing tremendous assistance. But Reagan and his ilk are just groaning.'

"That is the whole story so far. The fates of the Russian Panteleyev family and the Polish Karolak family, of Great Patriotic War servicemen and the present generation, are closely interwoven. There is nothing surprising about this. Socialist fraternity is a reality of our time. Comrade Wojciech Jaruzelski expressed this well during his recent visit to Moscow: 'We regard the alliance between our states, the friendship between our peoples and the ties that unite us as lasting and unbreakable. And all responsible, patriotic forces of our people perceive it like that.'"

FURTHER ON SFRY DEFENSE MINISTER'S DEPARTURE

PM290753 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Apr 82 p 3

[Text] Minsk, 23 Apr (TASS) -- Today Army General N. Ljubicic, member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium and SFRY federal secretary for national defense, who had been in our country on an official visit at the Soviet Government's invitation, left here for home.

Before his departure the guest was received by T. Ya. Kiselev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Belorussian CP Central Committee. Taking part in the talk were Army General A.T. Altunin, USSR deputy defense minister; Army General Ye.F. Ivanovskiy, commander, Belorussian Military District; and M. Orlandic, SFRY ambassador to the USSR. N. Ljubicic visited a military unit and the Khatyn memorial complex, where he laid flowers.

KUZNETSOV CONGRATULATES SFRY OFFICIAL ON AWARD

LD282238 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 1900 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] As we have already reported, by decree of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Gojko Ubiparip, vice president of the Federal Executive Council of the SFRY, has been decorated with the Friendship of Nations Order. Vasiliy Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, today presented this high-ranking decoration to Gojko Ubiparip in the Kremlin.

On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers and Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev personally, Vasiliy Kuznetsov heartily congratulated Gojko Ubiparip on the high-level decoration. This decoration, said Vasiliy Kuznetsov, is in recognition of your many years of fruitful activity in the development of trade, economic and scientific-technical cooperation between the USSR and Yugoslavia, in the strengthening of the bridge of brotherhood and friendship and in the deepening of mutual understanding and trust.

Gojko Ubiparip expressed his sincere gratitude for the high-level decoration. The ties between Yugoslavia and the USSR in the trade, economic and scientific-technical sphere are developing successfully, he said. The mutually advantageous cooperation between Yugoslavia and the USSR, which is based on equality and mutual respect, responds to the interests of the peoples of the countries.

The presentation of the decoration was attended by Comrade Georgadze, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Comrades Zhuravalev and Maltsev, first deputy ministers of the Soviet Union; Comrade Morozov, first deputy chairman of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation; other official figures; Comrade Strbac, acting charge d'affaires for Yugoslavia in the Soviet Union.

MPR DEFENSE MINISTER VISITS GSFG TANK UNIT

PM281605 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Apr 82 p 3

["Our Correspondent" Col V. Bogdanovskiy report: "Faithful to Fraternal Friendship"]

[Text] Group of Soviet Forces in Germany -- The servicemen of the Berdichevskiy Guards Tank Regiment named for Suhe Baatar are keeping sacred and tirelessly augmenting the heroic combat traditions of the members of their regiment who served at the front. During the Great Patriotic War the unit's tankmen traveled a victorious road from Kursk to Berlin in the formidable combat machines that the working people of Mongolia gave them in 1943.

A few days ago the regiment was visited by a Mongolian military delegation headed by Col Gen J. Abhia, member of the MPRP Central Committee and Mongolian defense minister. With the delegation was J. Dulmaa, Mongolian ambassador to the GDR. The distinguished guests were accompanied by Army General M. Zaytsev, commander in chief of the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany, and Col Gen I. Gubin, member of the Military Council and chief of the Political Directorate of the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany. The Soviet servicemen's guests visited the firing range, where they watched a tactical exercise involving field firing. The tankmen operated in true guards fashion, hitting all the targets with their first shots, their first rounds, at maximum range. Army General M. Zaytsev presented valuable gifts to the officers who had most distinguished themselves, Guards Maj N. Lebetskiy and Guards Sr Lt V. Zavodskiy, at the firing range.

At the Soviet-Mongolian friendship meeting held later in the unit's club, the Mongolian defense minister presented Mongolian awards to a group of Soviet soldiers, sergeants and officers for their successes in combat and political training during the socialist competition for a fitting greeting of the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation. The recipients included Guards Maj V. Nagurnyy, Guards Capt G. Pribylov and Guards Capt S. Myagkov.

TASS CITES 'EYEWITNESS' ON TURKISH TU TRIALS

LD290848 Moscow TASS in English 0756 GMT 29 Apr 82

["Evidence of an Eyewitness" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 29 Apr, TASS -- "As a WFTU observer, I had occasion to be present at the trial of the leaders and trade union activists of the Turkish DISK trade union confederation in Istanbul.

"As an eyewitness, I declare that this is not a trial, but a disgraceful performance staged by the military authorities! The defendants and their defence counsels are showered with insults and threats. They are interrupted, not allowed to speak. Facts and accusations are trumped up," Antoine Herrero, secretary of the Trade Unions International of the Textile Workers, writes in the newspaper TRUD.

As can be judged by the statement by general attorney of the military court in Istanbul, Antoine Herrero points out, it is only the first stage of mass reprisals. A total of 265 trials are being currently held in Turkey against 3,000 trade unionists.

Using the false pretext of combatting "terrorism," the eyewitness points out, the military authorities have unleashed a campaign of terror against those who resolutely uphold the legitimate rights of the working people. Under this pretext they have launched an attack against the working class of Turkey in order to please the monopolies and their ally -- the United States.

"Having studied the papers and familiarized myself with the situation in place," Antoine Herrero continues, "I can most definitely say: Yes, this is true! Tortures, arrests and repressions are continuing, murders are being perpetrated. Ozdemir, general secretary of the Municipal and Public Employees Union, has been arrested: 185 members of the Textile Workers' Union in Taris have been sentenced to prison terms ranging from two to 24 years; fifty-six physicians have been detained for giving medical aid to victims of tortures. Kenan Budak, chairman of the Leather and Shoe Workers' Union, has been murdered."

"I was told," Antoine Herrero writes, "that after the coup in Turkey more than 200 thousand persons have been arrested, 46 thousand of them are facing trial in military courts, while nearly 100 thousand are until now kept in prisons.

"An atmosphere of fear is prevailing in Turkey. Poverty in that country is appalling. More than 20 per cent of the able-bodied population are jobless. Last year alone the cost of living grew 50 per cent.

"The lives of many Turkish trade unionists is in grave danger. We can rescue them, if the world-wide movement of protest further grows in scope. It is necessary to stay the hand of the butchers," Antoine Herrero stresses.

IZVESTIYA COMMENTS ON DUTCH QUEEN'S SPEECH

PM281221 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Apr 82 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Increasing Disagreement"]

[Text] Washington -- Addressing the National Press Club, Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands, who is here on an official visit, left no doubts that the Western European peoples reject Washington's militarist foreign policy course. She stated that, like all her fellow countrymen, she feels profound alarm over the danger of the launching in Europe of a nuclear war which threatens to annihilate millions of people and destroy that continent's priceless cultural heritage.

Queen Beatrix essentially rejected Washington's propaganda thesis that the anti-war movement launched in Western Europe is provoked by "the Kremlin's intrigues."

She stressed that this movement is of a mass character and is based on a desire to spare the world a nuclear holocaust.

The queen of the Netherlands stressed in particular that the Western European antiwar and antimissile movement is "dominated not by neutralism and not by pacifism" as the Reagan administration tries to depict it but by a "very sincere concern over where nuclear arms are leading. We in Europe are in a very vulnerable position. We have known many wars in our history, some of them very tragic. Fear of total annihilation is a sincere feeling. In particular, I believe it would be important to treat strategic arms limitation talks with all seriousness."

The queen also quite clearly condemned the U.S. military's aggressive schemes in Central America and the Caribbean and Washington's support for dictatorial regimes and the preparations for direct military intervention in El Salvador whose people are struggling for freedom and independence. She pointed particularly to the inadmissibility of diktat toward other countries and peoples and supported the peoples' right to resolve their affairs themselves without foreign interference. In other words, the Dutch head of state essentially refused to align with Washington's rhetoric which hews to a "cold war" spirit.

At Washington's National Press Club, Dutch Foreign Minister M. van der Stoel said that the Dutch Government has not taken a final decision over the deployment of new U.S. missiles on its territory. He remarked that the Netherlands, like other West European countries. advocates ensuring its security primarily by relaxing tension and broadening dialogue and cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. In this connection, he called on the Reagan administration to ensure the speediest progress at the Geneva talks on nuclear arms limitation in Eruope and to begin, at last, the long promised talks with the USSR on strategic arms limitation.

The minister let it be known that the Netherlands rejected Washington's demand to curtail long-term business-like cooperation with the Soviet Union, in particular, the demand to sabotage the "Siberia-Western Europe" gas pipeline construction project. "The Netherlands -- and this opinion is shared by other West European countries -- believes that the gas pipeline must be built," he stressed.

PRAVDA REPORTS SPD PRESSURE ON ARMS OPPONENTS

PM281213 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Apr 82 p 5

[TASS report: "At the SPD Congress"]

[Text] Munich, 22 Apr -- Questions of FRG foreign policy and especially the problems associated with the NATO decisions to deploy new American medium-range nuclear missiles in West Europe were the subject discussed today at a plenary session of the Social Democratic Party of Germany [SPD] congress here.

The precongress statements of a whole series of land, district and city party organizations, the speeches of many prominent social democrats and also the keen debate within the framework of the congress working group show that resistance to the implementation of the dangerous NATO plans and to the transformation of the FRG into a launchpad for the American Pershing II and cruise missiles is growing within the West German Social Democrats' ranks.

In an endeavor to lessen the intensity of antiwar feeling in the party, the SPD leadership proposed that a final decision on the nuclear missile problem be postponed until the next congress, to be held in the fall of next year.

After exerting clear pressure on opponents of the NATO nuclear missile decisions, the SPD leadership got the congress to approve a draft resolution by the board that effectively provides for the implementation of the so-called NATO "arms upgrading."

W. Brandt was reelected SPD chairman and FRG Chancellor H. Schmidt and Prime Minister of North Rhine-Westphalia J. Rau were reelected his deputies.

MOSCOW VIEWS CYPRUS-SOCIALIST BLOC CONTACTS

NC281948 Moscow in Greek to Cyprus 1730 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] The official visit to Cyprus of Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek has ended. During his visit to the island the Czechoslovak minister was received by President of the Cyprus Republic Spiros Kiprianou and had meetings with President of the House of Representatives Ladhas AKEL [Restorative Party of the Working People], Secretary General Ezekias Papaioannou and other political and social personalities in the country. The talks that were held with Cypriot Foreign Minister Nikos Rolandhis confirmed the friendly nature of relations between Czechoslovakia and Cyprus. Both parties expressed the mutual wish to continue, expand and consolidate relations in all fields.

Our commentator writes: The joint Czechoslovak-Cypriot communique that was published and the results of the visit by Bohuslav Chnoupek show not only that the two countries continue to tread the road of deepening bilateral relations but also the similarity of positions in Cyprus and Czechoslovakia for the confrontation and assessment of serious international problems. For example, after expressing serious apprehension over the exacerbation of tension in international affairs, the two ministers stressed in the communique that the reasons for such tension are the efforts for the disturbance of the existing approximate balace of power in the world, something that increases the danger for confrontation.

In this connection they declared their countries' support of all steps aimed at the achievement of a general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control and also supported the development of international cooperation for the achievement of this purpose. The good relations that have been formed between Cyprus and Czechoslovakia are characteristic of Cyprus' relations with the other socialist countries. Thus, while receiving the credentials of the Polish People's Republic Ambassador in Cyprus Janusz Lewandowski, Spiros Kiprianou stressed that there are close friendly relations between the two countries in all sectors. At the same time he expressed gratitude to the government and people of Poland for the consistent support they give to Cyprus' just cause.

Nice words for the socialist countries, for their anti-imperialist solidarity with the Cypriot people's struggle, and for the equitable solution of the Cyprus problem have been expressed many times by other leaders of the republic, political personalities, deputies, representatives from broad circles of the island's public opinion. The consistent position of these countries of the socialist society was again confirmed during the official visits of the Cypriot president to Bulgaria and Hungary at the end of last year. Then, as during Bohuslav Chnoupek's visit to Cyprus, it was again stressed that the equitable and stable solution of the Cyprus problem should be sought on the basis of the well-known UN resolutions and the positions of the Final Act of the pan-European conference in Helsinki. It is precisely their implementation which can guarantee in the best way the maintenance of the Cyprus Republic as a unitary, independent, territorially integral state which follows a nonaligned policy.

In Cyprus, people know well, our commentator continues, that the policy of the Soviet Union and of the other socialist countries on the Cyprus problem pursues one goal: to protect the basic interests of the Cypriot state under the circumstances of the continuing imperialist intervention in Cyprus' internal affairs. Steadfastly following this policy, the socialist states simultaneously consider the fact that two national communities live on the island, the Greek and the Turkish communities. More specifically, this fact found expression in the Hungarian-Cypriot communique on the results of Spiros Kiprianou's visit to Hungary. The communique mentions the need to respect the basic rights and freedoms of every Cypriot and also of taking into consideration the interests of the two communities in Cyprus.

At the same time it is worth noting that both parties' coincidence of views on serious international problems was stressed both during the Czechoslovak foreign minister's visit to Nicosia and during Kiprianou's talks in Budapest and Sofia. All these things allow us to state that the relations of friendship and cooperation between Cyprus and the socialist countries have a stable political base and good prospects for the future, our commentator concludes.

USSR CRITICAL OF DANISH IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

PM261041 Copenhagen AKTUELT in Danish 20 Apr 82 p 15

[Text] The Soviet Union yesterday criticized the ban on imports of certain Soviet goods to which Denmark agreed within the framework of the EEC in reaction to the military take-over in Poland. The criticism came at the opening of Danish-Soviet talks in Moscow in the so-called joint commission for industrial technical, and scientific cooperation. The Danish delegation, which comprises government officials and representatives of Danish industry, dismissed the criticism by pointing out that it lies outside the area of competence of the Danish-Soviet commission. Instead the delegation urged the Soviet Union to buy more goods from Denmark.

"Even though trends in trade between Denmark and the Soviet Union must be seen as positive, there are a number of matters which complicate relations. I am thinking of the limitations on the purchase of Soviet goods introduced by Denmark in March," Soviet Deputy Minister for Foreign Trade Nikolay Smelyakov said at the opening of the commission's talks.

"The restrictions have a discriminatory character despite their modest size," the Soviet deputy minister went on.

But he also described Denmark's attitude to international politics as sober.

The joint commission's Danish chairman, Jens Barfoed, answered the Soviet criticism in a single sentence.

"Since trading policy is outside our area of competence I do not want to discuss the matter," he said simply.

The Danish import ban covers luxury items such as Soviet salmon and caviar. There has been speculation that the import ban would cause the Soviet Union to stop the purchase of eight Danish ferries. The talks covering these have been postponed several times at the Russians' request, but are expected to be concluded in Moscow this week.

BRIEFS

MEDIA PROTOCOL WITH DENMARK -- Copenhagen, 28 Apr (TASS) -- In accordance with the program of cultural and scientific cooperation between the USSR and Denmark for 1980-84 a working protocol was signed here today on cooperation between the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting and Danish radio during 1982-83. The protocol envisages the further expansion of the exchange of television and radio programs about various aspects of the life of Soviet and Danish peoples. [Text] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2007 GMT 28 Apr 82 LD]

TASS STATEMENT ON ISRAELI RAID DISTRIBUTED IN UN

LD281742 Moscow TASS in English 1710 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] New York, 28 Apr, TASS -- The TASS statement of April 22 of this year, which resolutely condemns the recent raid of the Israeli aviation on Lebanon, has been distributed in the U.N. headquarters as an official document of the Security Council.

ISRAEL'S W. BANK, GAZA POLICY REVEAL AMBITIONS

LD281546 Moscow TASS in English 1524 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Moscow, 28 Apr, TASS -- Having secured its rear in Sinai, Israel is not going to yield the Arab lands it has captured on the West Bank of the Jordan River and in Gaza Strip. The annexationist ambitions of the Israeli leadership stands in high relief in the context of its returning the Sinai Peninsula to Egypt. Israeli Prime Minister Begin's official statements and interview with the Egyptian newspaper MAY reaffirmed territorial claims to the West Bank of the Jordan and Gaza Strip contending that Israel has a "right" to them. It is characteristic that the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Sinai is being used by Tel Aviv and Washington to substantiate and justify Tel Aviv's aggressive ambitions in the Middle East. A White House statement issued last Sunday described the return of Sinai to Egypt as a sacrifice on the part of Israel. This is the logic of the aggressor and its patron across the coean. The return of another country's captured land is being equalled to a "loss" of legally owned lands.

By force of this "logic", the Zionists regard the Golan Heights, the West Bank of the Jordan and Gaza Strip, which are still under Israeli occupation, as "an inalienable part of Israel". Tel Aviv would not have made these bold claims if the Israeli leaders did not enjoy open support from the U.S. ruling circles. Washington does not only provide large-scale economic and military aid to its partner. The White House and Tel Aviv pursue an active and coordinated policy to the department of the vital interests of Arab nations.

The Arab people of Palestine have been deprived of a motherland, while Washington and Tel Aviv are trying to assure the Arabs that this is the way it should be because Israel allegedly needs their land.

The Golan Heights have been torn away from Syria, but Israeli and American propaganda declares vociferously that the annexation is necessary to ensure Israel's security. If this is translated into the everyday language, the policy cannot be qualified as other than open international plunder. Experience has shown, however, that violence will inevitably be ended sooner or later...Israeli occupationists do not seem to be an exception. There is celebration going throughout Israel now of the country's 34th anniversary. It seems the most convenient time to remind that country that, by pursuing an aggressive policy towards its neighbours, by depriving the Arab people of Palestine of the right to self-determination and to the setting up of an independent state, Tel Aviv seriously undermines chances for a comprehensive political Middle East settlement.

SINAI HANDOVER FITS U.S. 'HEGEMONISTS' STRATEGY

PM281205 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 21 Apr 82 p 3

[Report by APN correspondent V. Paruzin for KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA: "Ax Over the Cedars of Lebanon: The Israeli Military's Militarist Hysteria"]

[Excerpts] Beirut -- The closer we come to 25 April, the day when the last Israeli soldier is to leave occupied Sinai, the more tense the situation around Lebanon grows. Israeli military subunits are being transferred direct from Sinai to the Lebanese border, while Israeli warships and missile boats are constantly cruising off Lebanon's southern seaboard between Tyre and Sidon.

How will events develop in the next few days? What is the reason for the extreme aggravation of tension in the Near East? These questions are the main subject of conversation among Lebanese political circles and on the pages of local newspapers. The forecasts, like the explanations of the reasons for the aggravation of the situation, are most diverse.

Some people argue approximately as follows: Tel Aviv is seeking, first, to compensate for the return of the barren Sinai deserts to Egypt by seizing the very fertile south Lebanese lands; second, to deal a crushing blow to the Palestine resistance movement and Lebanese national-patriotic forces; and, third, to test the "reliability" of post-As-Sadat Egypt as a partner in the Camp David deal.

All that is so, others argue, but no Israeli adventure today can be viewed as a local or even regional phenomenon. It is far more correct to regard it as a component and inalienable part of U.S. imperialism's global hegemonist strategy.

The Near East is viewed by the U.S. administration as a region where military-strategic strongpoints directed against the USSR must be created. In addition, stepping up control over Arab oil, which the U.S. West European NATO allies and Japan cannot do without, would enable Washington to be tougher in dictating its will to them.

With the Reagan administration's entry into the White House the buildup of U.S. military presence in the Near East began to be effected at an accelerated tempo. From a show of strength by the U.S. 6th Fleet, the United States has turned to the creation of permanent military bases in Arab and Near East countries, to large-scale deliveries of sophisticated U.S. weapons, serviced by Pentagon specialists, to the region, and to the permanent basing of U.S. military units in the Near East.

The death of As-Sadat, whom the United States considered its most obedient partner in the Near East, seriously worried the U.S. administration. The White House urgently set about elaborating a complex of measures designed to galvanize the Camp David deal in the altered situation and to prevent a repetition in an "Egyptian version" of the Iranian events, so catastrophic for the United States, and the main gamble here, naturally, is on the consolidation of the military-strategic alliance with Israel. On 30 November last year the leaders of the U.S. and Israeli military departments -- C. Weinberger and A. Sharon -- signed the so-called "Memorandum on Mutual Understanding in the Field of Strategic Cooperation." It puts foremost the task of relying on U.S. and Israeli military strength to defeat the anti-imperialist forces in the Near East, turning this region into a stronghold of the struggle against the USSR, the socialist community countries and the world national liberation movement. This aggressive plan was wrapped up in the standard phony anti-Soviet packaging of "defending the Near East against the threat from the USSR and foreign interference." This memorandum distributed the roles and mutual obligations of each side whereby the United States undertook to give political support and material aid to any actions by Tel Aviv aimed against the national liberation movement in the region and not to hinder Israel's annexationist course.

Having enlisted this support and gotten the bit between their teeth, as the saying goes, the Israeli expansionists rushed to snatch bigger and fatter pieces. In December Israel annexed the Golan Heights, which have been Syrian from time immemorial. The United States not only made no attempt to bridle the aggressor but, on the contrary, "vetoed" the Security Council resolution demanding the imposition of sanctions against Israel if it did not rescind its decision. Immediately after the annexation of the Golan Heights, the Israeli occupying authorities launched a widespread terror campaign against the Arab population on the occupied West Bank of the Jordan and in the Gaza Strip. And again the U.S. representative on the Security Council prevented the adoption of a resolution condemning Tel Aviv's tyranny.

The militarist hysteria being fanned by Washington and Tel Aviv's aggressive aspirations in the Near East are causing serious concern and alarm.

The tension is at a peak, and the conflagration of a new war could flare up there at any moment. This is why the new peace initiatives advanced by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, at the Soviet trade unions' 17th congress and at the ceremonial meeting in Tashkent were greeted with great attention and interest in Arab countries.

"The Soviet Union has thereby demonstrated once again to all mankind its unbending determination to defend peace and the peoples' freedom and independence," 'Arabi Awwad, member of the PLO Executive Committee, declared in conversation with an APN correspondent. "The Soviet Union counters the reckless policy of political adventurism and aggression being pursued by the present American administration and Israel's Zionist rulers with a peaceful policy of ensuring the peoples' sovereign rights and their security. It is perfectly clear that, in the final analysis, the policy of fanning militarist hysteria will bring its initiators to total bankruptcy."

IRANIAN GOVERNMENT BATTLES KURDISH INSURGENTS

LD281702 Moscow TASS in English 1015 GMT 27 Apr 82

[Text] Tehran, 27 Apr, TASS -- The Iranian Government has summoned considerable forces to suppress the Kurdish insurgent movement in favour of national autonomy within the framework of Iran. The governor-general of the West Azerbaijan Province said in an interview he granted a correspondent of the IRNA [ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY] agency that troops and Guards of the Islamic Revolution were making a fighting advance along motor roads linking the towns of Mahabad and Piranshahr with Sardasht. Recently governmental forces succeeded in escorting a food caravan along the Baneh-Sardasht road, the governor-general said.

The agency points out that artillery and helicopters are widely used in the battles against the Kurdish insurgents. Twenty Kurds were killed in an exchange of fire near the town of Divandarreh.

Arrests of members of anti-governmental organizations continue in Tehran and in provinces of the country. In the recent days, the newspaper KAYHAN reports 47 people were detained. Clashes between security forces and enemies of the regime took place not only in the capital but also in Tabriz and near Shiraz.

A spokesman for Iran's Prosecutor's Office acknowledged in an IRNA agency interview that it was not possible to check the manifestations against the present order, notwithstanding the vigorous actions by the authorities.

U.S. PURSUES 'GUNBOAT DIPLOMACY' IN CARIBBEAN

LD281546 Moscow TASS in English 1532 GMT 28 Apr 82

[By TASS political news analyst Nikolay Chigir]

[Text] Moscow, 28 Apr, TASS -- According to an announcement of the U.S. Navy command, the Ocean Venture-82 exercises, largest in recent times, have begun in the Caribbean. Taking part in the exercises are 45,000 American servicemen, 60 vessels, including aircraft carriers Independence and Forrestal, B-52 strategic bombers and AWACS planes. For already an eighth time in the last half-year, the USA "is flexing its muscle" in the area of the Caribbean, drawing the NATO allies into participating in these militarist adventures.

What it is that has caused these demonstrations of military might in the region? Why is it that at the time when such countries as Mexico, Cuba and Nicaragua are persistently working to resolve contentious issues and conflict situations through peaceful constructive negotiations, the USA is brandishing weapons increasingly louder?

The answer to these questions can only be this: The Washington administration still stakes on military force as the main instrument for the pursuit of its foreign policy in Latin America. Armed provocations, threats and blackmail -- and this is the only description that can be placed on the current Pentagon exercises -- are, judging by everything, regarded by Washington as the most effective levers with which it hopes to dictate its will to the countries and areas of the region.

The nature of the Ocean Venture-82 leaves no one in doubt as to their being an important stage in the progress of U.S. preparations for possible aggressive actions in Central America and in the Caribbean basin. This is borne out, among other things, by participation in them of the so-called Rapid Deployment Force and the planned landing of an American landing party in the U.S. Guantanamo base situated on an illegally occupied part of Cuban territory. The Cubans, as is stressed by the newspaper GRANMA, have every right to regard this landing party as an exercise in preparing a U.S. invasion of Cuba.

Legitimate concern over the current U.S. demonstration of force is also felt in other countries of the region, where it is justifiably linked with the Washington administration's plans spearheaded against Nicaragua and Grenada, and to the drawn-in-blood liberation struggle of the peoples of El Salvador and Guatemala. Quite recently, during the discussion in the U.N. Security Council of the situation in Central America, the USA vetoed a draft resolution calling for abstaining from direct, indirect, overt or covert use of force with respect to any country of Central America or the Caribbean basin. The close interaction of the Pentagon and the State Department confirms that the U.S. diplomacy has been and remains a "gunboat diplomacy."

ECONOMIC COOPERATION TALKS HELD WITH BOLIVIA

PM281539 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Apr 82 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report plus unattributed commentary: "USSR-Bolivia: Favorable Development"; from the "World Today" feature compiled by V. Pshenkin]

[Text] The first session of the Soviet-Bolivian Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation has ended in the Bolivian city of Santa Cruz.

The final document emphasizes that the sides achieved a stable basis for broadening economic cooperation and increasing commodity turnover. It notes the successful cooperation and increasing commodity turnover. It notes the successful cooperation in the nonferrous metallurgy sphere, a graphic example of which is the construction with the USSR's assistance of a plant for the enrichment of tin ore waste in Potosi Department. Using the experience of its construction, a plan has been drawn up for a similar plant in Oruro Department.

ESTONIAN STRIKE ACTION LEADS TO PRISON SENTENCE

PM261113 Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 22 Apr 82 p 10

[Staffen Teste report: "Soviet Union -- One Year in Prison for 'Strike Leaflet'"]

[Text] The political protest action involving the dissemination of leaflets calling for a 30-minute strike in Tallinn on 1 December 1981 has now had legal repercussions. A court in Tallinn has sentenced Dr Endel Rose to 1 year in a labor camp for taking part in the dissemination of the leaflets urging the strike. The Soviet charge was the circulation of slander reviling the Soviet state and social system. In Tallinn's central prison three other people are now awaiting trial for their active participation in the same protest strike action.

But there have been no new arrests in Tallinn since December last year despite the fact that the strike actions are still continuing on a small scale on the first working day of every month. Since the 13 December military takeover in Poland, however, the wind has been taken out of the sails of the Baltic wave of protest.

However, the protest actions in Tallinn have turned out to be considerably more widespread than people in the West initially realized. In particular the four arrests and now the 1-year sentence are an indication of this. Estonian exile circles in Stockholm are now also reporting that the action -- 30 minutes of silence and work stoppage -- was widespread in many factories and workplaces in Tallinn itself. Since December it has mainly been at small offices and smaller places of work that people have been absent during the particular 30 minutes in the morning -- have either paused for a cigarette or stopped work.

Soviet anxiety over the protests among the Estonians has also turned out to be greater than was apparent at first. Immediately prior to 1 December the Soviet Union suspended the direct dialing facility from Sweden to Tallinn, as well as Kiev and Leningrad. This facility had been introduced in connection with the Olympic Games in Moscow in the summer of 1980. The Swedish Telecommunications Administration still does not know when and if the Soviet Union intends to reintroduce the service.

KAZAKH FIRST SECRETARY ON REPUBLIC'S PROGRESS

LD232016 Moscow TASS in English 1430 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] Prague, 23 Apr, TASS -- The Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic, formerly a backward area on the fringes of tsarist Russia, has reached a high level of economic, social and cultural development and is a vivid example of the revolutionizing power of the CPSU's Leninist policy of nationalities, Dinmukhamed Kunayev, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan, writes in the May issue of WORLD MARXIST REVIEW. He contributed an article speaking about the Soviet republic's successes in connection with the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR, falling due this year.

He says, in particular, that efforts to eliminate the colonial legacy began in the first years of socialist construction in accordance with a long-term program for mobilising forces to ensure the advancement of the backward regions by warranting them such economic development rates, which were by far higher than the average ones in the country.

Thus, gross industrial output in the country as a whole increased by 12 times in 1940-70, while the corresponding figure for Kazakhstan was nearly 19. This came as a result of the emergence of new industrial centres and whole industries, the development of transport and communications, and large-scale housing and cultural construction there. In the past two decades, industrial production in Kazakhstan climbed by 330 percent. Electricity output increased almost six-fold. The engineering and metal-working industries turned out 7.8 times more products and the chemical and petrochemical industries 9.6 times more products than 20 years ago.

In the 25 years since work first started to open up Virgin Lands in Kazakhstan, it has boosted its grain output by 600 percent and now produces 30 million tons of grain a year under favourable conditions. Along with grain production, animal husbandry has developed intensively. Kazakhstan now produces over one million tons of meat, four times more than 25 years ago, Dinmikhamed Kunayev says.

Over the years of Soviet Government, the author continues, real incomes of factory workers have gone up by nearly ten times and those of farmers by 12 times. The mortality rate has fallen by more than four times. The average life expectancy has doubled to reach 70 years. Kazakhstan has over 600 educational establishments. Over two thirds of its factory workers and 60 per cent of farmers have either higher or secondary education qualifications. By the number of students, Kazakhstan is ahead of many developed countries. Seven times more specialists work in its economy today than in the whole of Russia before the collapse of tsarism.

In conclusion Dinmukhamed Kunayev stresses that the victory of socialism in Kazakhstan and central Asian republics has shown in real life that the peoples are capable, irrespective of the stage of precapitalist relations they find themselves on, of closing the gap between themselves and the most developed countries and catch up with them in a historically short period of time.

TBILISI AWARDED LENIN ORDER; SHEVARDNADZE SPEAKS

LD282254 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] A meeting was held in Tbilisi today devoted to the awarding of the Order of Lenin to the capital of Georgia. This award was conferred on the twon for its services to the revolutionary movement and to the establishment and consolidation of Soviet power in the republic, for its great contribution to the victory over the fascist invaders in the Great Patriotic War, and for its achievements in economic and cultural construction.

A speech was made at the meeting by Comrade Shevardnadze, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, who was warmly welcomed by those present. He said in part:

[Begin recording] Allow me on behalf of all the participants in today's festive meeting, all those who have gathered on this historic day on Constitution Square in the city of Tbilisi, all the working people of Georgia and its capital and all the nations and ethnic groups living in our republic, to warmly thank the party Central Committee, the Politburo, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev personally for such a high appraisal of the city of Tbilisi's contribution to communist construction and of the feats of the people of Tbilisi during the revolution, the civil and patriotic wars, collectivization, the cultural revolution, the postwar rebirth and the restoration and further development of the economy and culture.

It is symbolic that this distinguished award, the Order of Lenin, has been conferred on the capital of Soviet Georgia in the year of the glorious 60th anniversary of the USSR. Tbilisi is one of the beautiful towns of our country and of our planet. The genuis of the people is here embodied in long-lasting material and spiritual riches -- aircraft and electric locomotives, unique machine tools and machinery created by the golden hands of the workers, engineers and designers, new discoveries by scientists, new novels, symphonies, operas and productions, spiritual masterpieces created by our glorious intelligentsia, scientists and cultural and artistic figures. In response to the distinguished award, the working people of the Order of Lenin city of Tbilisi will continue with redoubled energy to create and work for the sake of implementing the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress. [applause] [end recording]

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS SESSION ON PLAN FULFILLMENT

PM280831 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Apr 82 p 2

[TASS report: "At the USSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] A session of the USSR Council of Ministers was held on 23 April to examine the results of the fulfillment of the USSR state plan for economic and social development and the USSR state budget for the first quarter of 1982.

Growth in the country's economy and an improvement in the Soviet people's well-being were ensured in the first quarter of this year.

The increase in industrial production compared with the corresponding period of 1981 stood at 2.1 percent, and at 2.9 percent in terms of average daily production. The industrial output sales plan was fulfilled by 101 percent. The retooling and modernization of existing enterprises and shops continued.

In agriculture the preparations for spring sowing were on the whole completed. Fieldwork is being carried out in a number of the country's regions.

The program adopted by the 26th CPSU Congress for social development and the enhancement of the people's well-being continued to be implemented. The average monthly wages of workers and employees increased 2.4 percent against the first quarter of last year and stood at R177.5. Housing and cultural and domestic construction was carried out on a large scale.

At the same time serious shortcomings in the fulfillment of plan targets were noted at the session. The production plan was underfulfilled by enterprises in ferrous metallurgy, the construction materials industry, light industry, the meat and dairy industry and certain other sectors. A number of ministries underfulfilled the target for labor productivity growth and the introduction of new equipment. Major shortcomings continued to occur in railroad transport. Individual construction ministries did not ensure the fulfillment of the contract work plans set them or the targets for commissioning fixed capital.

The USSR Council of Ministers obliged USSR ministers and departmental leaders and union republic councils of ministers to analyze carefully the results of the fulfillment of plan targets in the first quarter of 1982 and, guided by the 26th CPSU Congress and CPSU Central Committee's November (1981) plenum decisions, and by the propositions and tasks contained in the speeches of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, at that plenum and at the USSR 17th Trade Union Congress, to formulate and implement measures to eliminate the shortcomings that have occurred and to make good the underfulfillment that occurred in the first quarter of this year with regard to the plans for production, deliveries, transportation of output and other indicators.

Special attention was paid to the need to mobilize existing reserves to improve production efficiency and work quality and to ensure the concentration of capital investments on the construction of the most important projects nearing completion, the on-schedule commissioning and fuller utilization of production capacities, the strictest economy and thrift in the consumption of fuel, electrical and thermal energy, raw materials, supplies and also the wages fund, and the strengthening of state and labor discipline in all production sectors and in the management sphere.

USSR ministries and departments and union republic councils of ministers are instructed to intensify work on strengthening the material and technical base of agriculture and increasing production of agricultural produce, including on subsidiary plots, and seeking additional resources for expanding production of high-quality consumer goods.

The USSR Ministry of Agriculture, the USSR Ministry of Fruit and Vegetable Farming, the USSR Ministry of Procurement, the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, the USSR State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture, and union republic councils of ministers are obliged to take additional measures for the successful implementation of spring sowing, the efficient utilization of equipment, fertilizers and other material and technical means allocated to agriculture, and also for a considerable increase in fodder production on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in 1982 in order to improve livestock productivity and increase production of meat, milk, eggs, wool and other livestock-raising products.

The USSR Council of Ministers also outlined a number of other measures aimed at improving the work of USSR ministries and departments on fulfilling plan targets.

A speech was delivered at the session by N.A. Tikhonov, Politburo member of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

V.I. Dolgikh, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, participated in the work of the USSR Council of Ministers session.

CONFERENCE VIEWS THRIFT MEASURES IN CONSTRUCTION

PM281401 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 15 Apr 82 p 2

[TASS report: "Policy of Thrift on Construction Sites"]

[Text] The buildup of the country's production potential and the construction of housing and social, cultural and consumer service projects are capital construction's main task in the 11th 5-Year Plan. In terms of the scope and rate of construction work, the Soviet Union is without equal in the world. When the scale is so huge each percentage point of resources saved amounts to hundreds of millions of rubles. An all-union conference that opened 14 April in Moscow is devoted to questions of saving material resources in construction.

Taking part in the conference are CPSU Central Committee executives, ministry and department leaders, leading specialists, scientists and leading production workers.

The conference was addressed by I.N. Dmitriyev, chief of the CPSU Central Committee's Construction Department, and USSR Ministers N.V. Goldin, A.M. Tokarev and A.I. Yashin.

It was noted that construction workers and working people in construction industry enterprises have done definite work to fulfill the 26th CPSU Congress decisions and the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution "On Strengthening Work To Save and Make Rational Use of Raw Material, Fuel and Energy and Other Material Resources." Questions of strengthening the policy of thrift have been discussed at ministry and department collegium sessions. When the conditions for socialist competition among collectives are formulated, the indicators of reduced materials expenditure and a thrifty attitude to resources are included among the main indicators. When collective contracts are concluded provision is made for the adoption of specific pledges on saving raw and other materials, fuel and energy.

At the same time it was emphasized at the conference that people still do not everywhere approach the improvement of the utilization of material resources from a standpoint of great exactingness. Engineers are little involved in the resolution of these questions, the experience of innovators and leading collectives is poorly encouraged, and disseminated and this important work is sometimes approached in a stereotyped manner. As a result there are great losses of construction materials, structures and parts at construction sites, and a great deal of time and money is spent on eliminating defects and planners' errors.

The enterprises and organizations of the construction industry and construction materials industry are major consumers of fuel and energy resources, whose thrifty expenditure is an important national economic task. Among the reserves which have not yet been widely employed in production the conference participants mentioned the creation of energy-saving and wastefree industrial processes, the reconstruction and replacement of obsolete equipment and the utilization of secondary heat and production waste. Much remains to be done to increase the output and improve the quality of progressive construction materials, articles and structures.

Planners are called upon to play a great role in intensifying the policy of economy and thrift, for they are in on the beginning of every construction project and implement the link between science and production. All that is new and advanced must more rapidly find application in practice and must be more vigorously implemented.

The conference continues.

RSFSR CSA NOTES PROBLEMS IN FIRST QUARTER

LD281340 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] A report by the RSFSR Central Statistical Administration says that the industry of the Russian Federation has fulfilled the plan for the first quarter for the overall volume of production and the output of the majority of most important types of products. The increase in industrial production in comparison with the corresponding period of last year amounted to 1.5 percent. The quarterly plan has been overfulfilled for the extraction of gas, the production of metal-cutting machine tools, instruments, automation equipment, computer technology, oil apparatus, chemical equipment, electric locomotives, motor vehicles, some types of agricultural machinery, excavators, clothing, crockery, clocks, television sets, furniture and several other consumer goods.

The report by the RSFSR Central Statistical Administration notes: Industry was operating under complex conditions in the first quarter. As a result of a year of low rainfall in some areas, hydroelectric stations were not operating at full capacity, which created difficulties in the electricity supply. The deficiency of agricultural raw materials was reflected negatively in the work of branches of the light and foodstuffs industries. The plan was not fulfilled for the production of mineral fertilizers, sulfuric acid, freight trucks, commercial timber, precast reinforced concrete, underwear and knitted outer garments, animal fats and whole milk products. The collective of enterprises and associations are devoting their efforts to remove deficiencies and are stepping up the rates of industrial production, and raising the efficiency and improving the quality of work, and are successfully fulfilling their socialist pledges for a worthy reception of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR.

BRIEFS

SHURTAN GAS DEPOSIT -- Development of the Shurtan natural gas deposit, one of the biggest in Uzbekistan, has been completed, and it has been handed over for exploitation. Shurtan contains about 500 billion cu.m. of gas. Every year it will supply up to 4 billion cu:m: to the Syrdarya GES, the most powerful in central Asia. Shurtan gas will also be supplied to the Tashkent GRES, the (?Akhangaran) and Bekabad cement combines, and other industrial enterprises in the republic. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 28 Apr 82 LD]

RESOLUTION ON SIBERIAN, FAR EAST AGRICULTURE

PM281001 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Apr 82 pp 1-2

[Unattributed report: "In the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers have adopted a resolution "On the Comprehensive Development of Agriculture in Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast."

The resolution notes that increasing in every way the output of agricultural products in Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast is one of the most important tasks and an integral part of the comprehensive opening up of natural wealth and development of production forces in that zone, which is playing an ever-increasing part in the country's economy.

The further development of industrial and construction potential there is producing a significant increase in population and urgently demands the accelerated development of agriculture in those regions with a view to ensuring that the population's potato, vegetable, milk, egg and meat requirements are met mainly from local production.

Party, soviet and agricultural organs and agricultural workers in Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast have achieved an increase in the production and sale to the state of arable and livestock products.

But the level of output of agricultural products achieved is not sufficient, and the requirements of the zone's population for the most important food products are not being fully met from local production, as a result of which considerable quantities of foodstuffs are imported from other parts of the country.

On the basis of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee July (1978) plenum and the 25th and 26th party congresses and with a view to the comprehensive development and implementation of the program for intensifying agriculture and fulfilling the instructions and recommendations put forward by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, during his tour of Siberia and the Far East, the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers have named as one of the main tasks for party, soviet and agricultural organs and scientific institutions in Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast that of ensuring further intensification of agricultural production, speeding up the introduction of scientific-technical achievements progress and considerably increasing the efficiency of all sectors of agriculture with a view to reliably supplying the population of those regions with foodstuffs mainly from local production as well as furthering the process of making material, cultural and consumper living conditions more similar for the populations of the cities and the countryside.

USSR ministries and departments, the RSFSR Council of Ministers and party, soviet and agricultural organs in oblasts, krays and autonomous republics in Siberia and the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast are instructed to elaborate and implement a system of measures for the comprehensive development of agriculture -- measures aimed at improving soil fertility, the standard of arable and livestock farming and the efficiency of agricultural production and turning villages and hamlets into well-appointed settlements, making provision for:

The introduction into production, bearing in mind natural conditions, of the achievements of agricultural science and leading experience and of a system of organizing agriculture such as to ensure the rational utilization of arable and other land; the incorporation in agricultural rotation, in due time, of all flood lands and newly opened up lands; and the creation, close to major cities and industrial centers and also in the regions of Baykal-Amur Railroad construction, of highly intensive agricultural zones specializing in the production of potatoes, vegetables, meat, milk, eggs and other products.

The assimilation on all farms of scientifically substantiated crop rotations, the introduction of the soil-protective farming system and the improvement of seed cultivation producing seed for grain and other agricultural crops. On the basis of improved standards of arable farming, more efficient use of organic and mineral fertilizers, improved use of reclaimed lands and a better structure of sowings. The task is set for the next few years to increase the yield from grain crops in Western Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast by 607 quintals and in Eastern Siberia by 4-6 quintals per hectare. The potato yield in those regions and in Kurganskaya Oblast is to be increased to 150-170 quintals and the vegetable yield to 200-250 quinals per hectare.

The implementation of measures to radically improve the fodder base for livestock raising and develop it on a preferential basis both by increasing the yield of fodder crops cultivated on arable land and by considerably increasing the productivity of meadows and pastures. It is essential to ensure unconditional fulfillment by every farm of the planned fodder production measures, the braod introduction of leading techniques for fodder procurement and storage and the strengthening of the material and technical base of fodder production.

The assured further development of livestock raising and its transfer onto an industrial footing by modernizing existing livestock units and constructing livestock complexes with the necessary fodder base and with comprehensive mechanization and automation of production processes, as well as increased output of livestock products, particularly meat and milk, through sharply increased animal productivity.

A persistent struggle everywhere to increase labor productivity, reduce prime cost, improve quality and improve the utilization and reduce losses of agricultural products at all stages of their production, transportation, storage, processing and sale, and maximum effort to strengthen the economies of kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

The RSFSR Council of Ministers and party, soviet and agricultural organs of Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast are instructed:

To direct particular attention to increasing grain production and the procurement of durum and strong varieties of wheat and pulse crops;

To adopt measures to considerably increase the volume of vegetable production in sheltered ground;

To ensure the further development of horticulture;

To secure an annual increase in the livestock population on kolkhozes and sovkhozes, considerably increase the proportion of breeding stock in the herd and improve breeding work;

To adopt measures to bring about the accelerated development of livestock raising for meat in the steppe and forest steppe regions of Siberia, and to this end to encourage individual rayons, farms and livestock units where there are favorable natural and economic conditions to specialize in raising beef cattle;

To ensure a further increase in the numbers and productivity of fine-wool and semifine-wool breeds of sheep. To adopt measures to open up new pasture lands, irrigate and increase the productivity of pastures and also extend the construction of pens, winter shelters and mechanized feeding areas for young animals.

To ensure the further development of beekeeping and high honey yields. To extend existing apiaries on kolkhozes and sovkhozes and organize large-scale specialized beekeeping farms;

To create a network of breeding sovkhozes to raise young beef cattle and supply them to farms and livestock units specializing in beef production;

To adopt measures to increase the numbers of horses on kolkhozes and sovkhozes and to encourage individual farms and livestock units to specialize in stud farming.

The USSR Ministry of the Fish Industry and the RSFSR Council of Ministers are instructed to carry out a range of fishery improvement measures in Siberia and the Far East to improve the reproduction of fish stocks and develop fisheries and commercial lake fish farming.

USSR Ministries and departments with industrial enterprises in Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast and constructing enterprises in that zone must provide for the creation of subsidiary farms at these enterprises, the construction of dairy, pig raising and fattening units, hothouses and other agricultural projects, the development of potato, vegetable and fodder production and also the utilization of waste warm water from enterprises for the creation of fish farms.

The resolution defines measures to further strengthen the material and technical base of agriculture in the zone in question. Some R20,476 million of capital investments are allocated for the entire range of operations in developing the sector over a 5-year period.

In the 11th 5-Year Plan it is planned to deliver 195,000 tractors, 84,000 grain harvesting combines, 168,000 trucks and 1,787,000 tons (in terms of nutrients) of mineral fertilizers for agriculture in Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast.

The Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building and the Ministry of Machine Building for Livestock Raising and Fodder Production are instructed to ensure the development of designs and the assimilation of series production of agricultural machines for Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast from 1982-85.

The USSR State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture [Goskomselkhoztekhnika] and the RSFSR Council of Ministers are instructed to ensure, in 1982-1985, the allocation of machnies and euqipment to kolkhozes, sovkhozes and other agricultural enterprises located in Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast in the quantities necessary to secure a significant increase in the level of mechanization of operations in arable farming, livestock raising and fodder production.

The RSFSR Council of Ministers, the USSR Ministry of Agriculture, the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources and the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences (Vaskhnil) are instructed to adopt measures to strengthen the material and technical base of scientific research institutes, experimental stations and experimental and production farms in Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast. By 1990 it is planned to complete the construction of a scientific campus for the Siberian department of the Vaskhnil in the region of Novosibirsk.

The RSFSR Council of Ministers is instructed, in the 11th 5-Year Plan, to carry out the construction, extension and commissioning of complexes and livestock units for raising and fattening 1,224,000 head of hogs, poultry units for egg production to hold 3.8 million laying hens, poultry units for meat production for 71.3 million head of poultry and hothouse combines with an area of 215 hectares on sovkhozes and other state agricultural enterprises in Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast.

The USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, the USSR Ministry of Agriculture and the RSFSR Council of Ministers have set the target, for the 11th 5-Year Plan, of commissioning 355,000 hectares of irrigated land, 375,000 hectares of drained land and 2,165 km of group water pipelines for agricultural purposes, and also carrying out work to irrigate pastures and improve the technical state of existing irrigation systems and amelioration work on land not requiring drainage. Measures are defined for ensuring the construction of projects forming part of the production base for water resources organizations and equipping them with highly productive specialized machinery and equipment.

The USSR Ministry of Geology is instructed from 1982-85 to carry out exploration and prospecting work for peat for fertilizer, carbonaceous rocks for liming acid soils and thermal waters for heat supply for agricultural and fisheries projects and to prospect for local construction materials to meet the requirements of the relevant ministries and departments. The RSFSR Council of Ministers is instructed to ensure from 1983-89 the construction and commissioning of peat extraction enterprises for agricultural needs.

The CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers defined measures aimed at the construction of new enterprises and the modernization and extension of existing ones for the hulling and milling and mixed feed industries and elevators, the commissioning of food industry enterprises and also the commissioning of production capacities for the production of meat and diary products and refigerator capacities.

The CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution draws particular attention to the implementation of a range of measures to ensure that kolkhozes, sovkhozes and other state agricultural enterprises are fully supplied with cadres and also to radically improve socioeconomic living conditions for the rural population in Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast.

The RSFSR Council of Ministers, the USSR State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education, the USSR Goskomselkhoztekhnika, the USSR Ministry of Agriculture and the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources are instructed:

In the 11th 5-Year Plan, to increase the numbers of skilled workers trained in agricultural, vocational and technical schools located in Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast to 486,000 and to ensure the construction of new agricultural, vocational and technical schools and the extension of existing schools by 13,200 students;

To adopt measures to reinforce agricultural enterprises in Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast with agricultural specialists, particularly middle-level cadres.

In the 11th 5-Year Plan it is planned, in Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast, to implement:

The construction and commissioning of apartment blocks in rural localities with an area of 15.8 million square meters, general educational schools with places for 95,200 students, preschool institutions with 113,300 places and clubs and rayon cultural institutes with 176,600 places, and also the construction, expansion and commissioning of central rayon hospitals providing 7,700 beds;

The construction of hard-surfaced roads for public use with a total length of 11,403 km and intrafarm roads on kolkhozes and sovkhozes with a total length of 2,531 km;

The further development and improvement of consumer services to the rural population and a 50 percent increase in the volume of consumer services compared with 1980;

The elaboration of measures to improve trade in the countryside, making provision for an increase in the trading area of stores and the capacities of public catering enterprises and also the expansion of the network of warehouses, refrigerators and storehouses for potatoes, vegetables and fruit;

The completion of the construction, extension and modernization of internal telephone links on all kolkhozes, sovkhozes and other agricultural enterprises and in water resources organizations.

The USSR Gosplan, the USSR Gosstroy, the RSFSR Council of Ministers and the relevant USSR ministries and departments are instructed to implement the necessary measures in Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast from 1982-85 for agriculture and associated sectors to ensure the assimilation of capital investments planned under the current resolution, as well as measures to increase the production capacities of their subordinate enterprises and organizations in the zone in question.

The RSFSR Council of Ministers is instructed to ensure in 1982-1985 the full satisfaction of requirements for brick, gravel and other construction materials for the construction of agriculture projects.

The USSR Gosstroy, USSR Ministry of Agriculture, USSR Ministry of Rural Construction and RSFSR Council of Ministers are instructed to approve in 1982 a plan for comprehensive experimental and demonstration construction in rural localities in Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskay Oblast; to elaborate and where necessary firm up plans for the construction of central settlements and departmental settlements of sovkhozes and kolkhozes and to improve the quality of architectural solutions and technical and economic indicators in the construction of rural settlements, making creative use of the best traditions of the people's architecture in planning and constructing settlements. The USSR Gosstroy and the RSFSR Council of Ministers must elaborate and, by agreement with the USSR Gosplan, approve in 1984 a comprehensive scheme for the development and siting of the material and technical base for construction in Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast for the 12th 5-Year Plan.

With a view to ensuring stable production of soybeans and increasing soil fertility on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the Far East through the use of liming materials, the USSR Gosplan, RSFSR Council of Ministers, USSR Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry, USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification, Ministry of Transport Construction and Ministry of Construction in the Far East and Transbaykal Regions are instructed to adopt measures to carry out a range of operations ensuring the commissioning in 1985 of a powdered lime plant based on the Chagoyan deposit in Amurskaya Oblast.

The RSFSR Council of Ministers, USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, USSR Ministry of Agriculture, USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, USSR Goskomeselkhoztehnika, Vaskhnil, Siberian Department of the USSR Academy of Sciences and Siberian department of the Vaskhnil are instructed, taking into account the peculiarities of individual regions of Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast, to elaborate and to implement from 1982-85 scientifically substantiated measures for agricultural production specialization and concentration, interfarm and interoblast cooperation and the introduction of the latest achievements of science, technology, technique and leading practice into agricultural production, to ensure increased efficiency of land, manpower, material and technical resources utilization.

The CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers expressed confidence that party, Soviet and agricultural organs, trade union and Komsomol organizations and all the working people of Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast and USSR ministries and departments will do everything necessary to ensure, on the basis of the all-round strengthening of the material and technical base and the further intensification and increased efficiency of agriculture, a significant increase in the output of agricultural products so as to meet the population's requirements more fully -- which will be a major contricution to the development of production forces in Siberia, the Far East and Kurganskaya Oblast.

RAILROAD PROBLEMS DELAY MACHINE DELIVERIES

LD281948 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Hay-making has begun in the south of the country. Procurement of forage is in progress in Central Asia, Transcaucasia and the North Caucasus Region. New machinery is very much in need at the present time.

The Ministry of Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Fodder Production has informed us that work forces at enterprises are stepping up production of mowers, self-propelled combines and other equipment. However, much of it is being held up at depots. For example, 2,500 loaders have accumulated at the Lyubertsy Ukhtomskiy works. The situation is the same for the dispatch of tractor rakes and pick-up and stacking machinery at the Syzran works.

The reason for this is the delay in sending railway flat cars. Since the beginning of April over 2,500 trucks have failed to arrive at this industry's enterprises. We reported these facts to Aleksandr Yakovlevich Aksenov, deputy head of department of the Railways Ministry. Indeed, he noted, the dispatch of machinery has been held up at a number of enterprises as a result of unrhythmical work by railwaymen. Urgent measures have been taken to rectify the situation. Additional railway flat cars have been sent to the enterprises where congestion has occurred. The leaders of services of the Moscow, Belorussian and Lvov Mainline Railways have been punished. For example (Khalimonenko), chief of the Mogilev division, has been reprimanded. Day-to-day control over the dispatch of important goods has been instituted. However, the railwaymen also have their complaints. The time spent standing idle by trucks while waiting for loading is double the norm at the Lyubertsy works. The process of loading machinery at the Syzran agricultural machinery works, at the (Salsk) fodder machinery works at the Neris firm in Lithuania is slow. The railwaymen are asking for the loading of trucks delivering machinery to kolkhozes and sovkhozes to be speeded up.

OFFICIAL DISCUSSES FORAGE GRAIN PRODUCTION

LD281728 Moscow TASS in English 1610 GMT 28 Apr 82

[Text] Moscow, 28 Apr, TASS -- "We are now making special emphasis on forage grain production," Aleksandr Zholobov, head of the main grain crop department of the Soviet Ministry of Agriculture, told a TASS correspondent today. "My country produces enough bread grain to meet its needs but so far imports part of the forage grain it needs from abroad."

Although the overall area under cereals this year will remain the same as it was last year, some changes took place in the sowing pattern: The farmland area sown to fodder crops was increased. Both winter and spring barley now occupy larger areas. There also were changes regarding the structure of the area under wheat. More high-yield fodder wheat varieties than usual were sown last autumn.

"Much is being done to boost corn output," Aleksandr Zholobov said. "Above all, I would like to call attention to the fact that soil improvement programs were executed on vast corn-growing areas. More than one-fifth of the total farmland under corn is in irrigated farming zones. Corn-growing in the USSR has undergone total re-tooling in recent years. A number of new farm machines were developed such as harvesters and grain cleaners. They make it possible to mechanise sowing, the distribution of fertilisers and other chemicals, harvesting and crop processing."

"More soya, peas and lupine as well as sunflower, rape and other highly nutritive crops are sown," he went on.

"Plant breeders selected and handed over to farms such grain crop varieties, which are conditioned to the Soviet Union's changeable climate and feature high cropping power."

"Winter crops this year hibernated better than last year," Aleksandr Zholobov noted, "while spring looks favourable for spring crops as well. Soil-conserving cultivation techniques were used on 42 million hectares of farmland. They prevent soil erosion and increase harvests by 1.5 to 3 centers per hectare."

He added that despite a number of lean years in the past five-year plan period (1976-1980), the average annual production of grain then amounted to 205 million tons.

"In the current five-year period (1981-85)," Aleksandr Zholobov said, "it is planned to increase grain output by another 16 to 19 percent, mainly by ensuring an increase in forage crop production: We would like to increase it by some 30 million tons."

ECONOMIC OBSERVER ON AGRICULTURAL ISSUES

LD252040 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian at 0550 GMT on 24 April broadcasts a 30-minute program entitled "More Good Products" presented by P.K. Shevchenko, Soviet economic observer. The program begins with Shevchenko speaking about private farms which he says produce millions of tons of potatoes, vegetables and large quantities of livestock products. In Tselinogradskaya and Lvovskaya Oblasts the private farms produce almost half of the total output of meat and milk, however private farms are developing slower than desired.

Shevchenko says that private farms experience difficulties with machinery and then refers to the 26th CPSU Congress material concerning private farms, and quotes from a letter which refers to local authorities imposing restrictions on the size of greenhouses. After speaking about the possible justification for the action of the local authorities, he says that they may have acted in haste in Permskaya Oblast.

Shevchenko goes on to quote a letter written by an individual in Krasnodarskiy Kray who asks when will it be possible to be able to have a multipurpose machine which can plow, cultivate, transport loads and perform other jobs. He says that similar questions are raised by various individuals in other regions.

Next, correspondent V. Tsvika reports on the production of vegetables in greenhouses at Moskovskiy Sovkhoz in Moskovskaya Oblast and on the supply of vegetables to the cities. He interviews A.V. Kuvaldin, deputy chief of Glavmosplodovoshchprom about the growing and supply of vegetables to Moscow stores.

Correspondent Yu. Roshchin then reports on a workers' canteen at Sakaganskaya mine in the Krivoy Rog basin.

Shevchenko concludes by discussing measures taken by various enterprises after criticisms by individuals in their letters. He speaks about the difficult tasks of light industry enterprises and the resolution of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers concerning light industry enterprises.